Higurashi
WHEN THEY CRY
ABDUCTED BY DEMONS ARC
2
STORY BY
RYUKISHI07
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Higurashi
WHEN THEY CRY
ABDUCTED BY DEMONS ARC

Higurashi WHEN THEY CRY
ABDUCTED BY DEMONS ARC 2

CONTENTS

4 TRAP 3

5 ISOLATION 53

6 RENA RYUGU 101

FINAL CHAPTER: WISH 161

...WAS SPENT WITH MY PRICELESS FRIENDS.

MY CARE-FREE, EVERY-DAY LIFE IN HINAMI-ZAWA ...

RENA AND MION ARE HIDING THINGS FROM ME.

IT IS SUSPECTED THAT THE VILLAGERS ARE INVOLVED IN THESE CRIMES.

BUT A SERIES OF MYS-TERIOUS DEATHS OCCURRED HERE — OYASHIRO-SAMA'S CURSE.

AND ALL OF A SUDDEN, RENA CHANGED COM-PLETELY.

THERE IS SOMETHING IN HINAMIZAWA THAT I DON'T KNOW...

CHAPTER 4: TRAP

Higurashi WHEN THEY CRY
ABDUCTED BY DEMONS ARC

CHARACTER INTRODUCTION

SATOKO HOJO

The club's expert at setting traps, Satoko is very strong-willed, but when counter-attacked, she shows she has a more fragile side...

KEIICHI MAEBARA

Keiichi recently transferred to Hinamizawa and was enjoying life with newfound friends. A string of mysterious incidents, however, has thrown all he thought he knew about the town and his friends into question.

RENA RYUGU

A friend from Keiichi's club who looks out for him, Rena seems to be nothing but a sweet, normal girl. When pressed about the unsettling incidents, though, Rena undergoes a frightening transformation.

KURAUDO OOISHI

A detective from the Okinomiya Police. He claims that Oyashiro-sama's Curse is a cover for murders committed by the entire village.

JIROU TOMITAKE

A would-be photographer. On the night of the Cotton Drifting, he tore out his own throat and died.

MION SONOZAKI

Mion is the ringleader of the club. The Sonozaki family led the anti-dam movement, and it's said the Mion herself had some serious run-ins with the police at the time, but...

RIKA FURUDE

Satoko's best friend and a member of the club. She has a quiet personality. When someone is depressed, she pets their head and comforts them.

THE STORY SO FAR...

Keiichi Maebara just moved to Hinamizawa where he spends his time doing club activities with his friends at school. That is until he learns of a series of mysterious deaths that occur each year on the night of the Cotton Drifting Festival, which have come to be known as Oyashiro-sama's Curse. This year, a man he knew, the photographer Tomitake, died. Keiichi is informed by police detective Ooishi that the deaths were actually murders committed by the village. Ooishi goes on to say that Keiichi's classmate, Mion, could be involved. Wanting to believe in his friends but wavering, Keiichi confronts Rena, prompting a frightening transformation. When he later discovers that Rena has been eavesdropping on his conversation with the detective, Keiichi's suspicions become all the more real...

ミーン ミンミンミンミンミーン
MIIIIN CHIJMO MIN MIN..MIN...

KEIICHI, YOU DON'T LOOK SO WELL.

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

WHAT TIME DID YOU GO TO SLEEP LAST NIGHT?

I HARDLY SLEPT AT ALL.

THE SUSPICIOUS DEATHS, OYASHIRO-SAMA'S CURSE, THAT HAPPENED IN HINAMIZAWA.

I QUESTIONED RENA ABOUT IT DIRECTLY...

ZOKU (CHILL)

...RENA AND EVERYONE ELSE DO TOO.

JUST LIKE YOU HAVE SECRETS AND THINGS YOU'RE HIDING, KEIICHI-KUN...

...SHE STOOD QUIETLY LISTENING IN ON MY PHONE CONVERSATION WITH OOISHI-SAN FOR ALMOST AN HOUR.

AT THAT TIME, RENA CHANGED DRASTICALLY, AND AFTER THAT...

RENA ...

RENA-CHAN'S HERE TO GET YOU.

...SHE SHOULD KNOW I WAS TALKING ABOUT HER AND THE INCIDENT...

IF SHE WAS LISTEN-ING IN...

DOKUN

DOKUN (BADUM)

BIKU! (JUMP)

Ding-doooong

KARAN (CLATTER)

MOM, I... THINK I HAVE A COLD...I KIND OF HAVE A FEVER...

I'M... SCARED... TO SEE RENA...

PATA (PATTER)

PATA

WHY DO I HAVE TO BE AFRAID OF RENA?

THEN I'LL GO TELL RENA-CHAN.

MAKE SURE YOU GO TO THE DOCTOR THIS AFTERNOON.

OH... THINK YOU CAN GO TO SCHOOL? OR WILL YOU BE STAYING HOME?

I'LL STAY HOME... SORRY.

BUT SHE'S KIND AND LOOKS AFTER PEOPLE. SHE'S A GOOD PERSON.

RENA'S A WEIRDO WHO TAKES HOME ANYTHING THAT'S "ADOW-ABLE."

I IMAGINED IT...

I IMAGINED THE RENA I SAW YESTER-DAY...

ふぅ… FUU (SIGH)

AND JUST IN CASE, I'LL GIVE YOU A SHOT.

A COLD, HM? I'LL GIVE YOU THREE DAYS' WORTH OF MEDICINE.

KIII... (CREAK...)

MIIIN CHUMO MIN MIN MIN...

入江診療所

SIGN: IRIE CLINIC

SO SHE WAS DEMONED AWAY.

...THE WHOLE THING SEEMS LIKE A LIE.

NOW THAT I'M AWAY FROM SCHOOL LIKE THIS...

SHE DIDN'T ELOPE WITH THAT MAN WITH THE CAMERA FROM TOKYO, DID SHE?

IT'S SAD THAT WE'VE LOST A YOUNG NURSE.

EH!?

AND TAKANO-SAN WAS SUCH A NICE PERSON...

TAKANO-SAN... REALLY DID DISAPPEAR ...

SO TAKANO-SAN WORKED AT THIS CLINIC?

THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT TOMITAKE-SAN AND TAKANO-SAN?

MIIIN MIN MIN MIN...

OYASHIRO-SAMA'S SHADOW FOLLOWS ME EVERY-WHERE.

...OF COURSE IT DOES.

OYASHIRO-SAMA IS HINAMI-ZAWA'S GUARDIAN DEITY.

PUU

PUUUU CHOOONKO

PUUUU

EVEN STAYING HOME FROM SCHOOL, I HEAR ABOUT THE CURSE ALL AROUND ME.

...OOISHI-SAN.

MAEBARA-SAAAN! HELLO!

BJRORORO (VRRROOM)

NI (GRIND)

Angel Mort

KI (SKREEK)

WEL-COME TO ANGEL MORT!

COME IN!

KEH... SO LAID BACK...

DON'T THE WAITRESSES LOOK LOVE-LY?

NN Fu Fu!

THE NEXT TOWN, OKINO-MIYA, HAS A SHOP LIKE THIS...

YESTERDAY I SAID SOMETHING ABOUT AN OLD HINAMIZAWA LEGEND.

...NOW, ABOUT THE CASE.

IT WOULDN'T HAVE ANY-THING TO DO WITH THE LEGEND, WOULD IT?

HUMANS ARE CAUSING THE IN-CIDENTS, RIGHT?

YES...I HEARD THE DETAILS FROM MY GRAND-MOTHER.

IT WAS A VILLAGE WITH MAN-EATING DEMONS, YOU SAID?

...PEOPLE ARE RESPONSIBLE.

OF COURSE ...

IF YOU ASK QUESTIONS BASED ON THAT, THINGS GET A LITTLE NTERESTING.

OYASHIRO-SAMA'S CURSE IS A "HUMAN CRIME MADE TO LOOK LIKE A CURSE."

...LONG, LONG AGO, HINAMIZAWA WAS APPARENTLY CALLED ONIGAFUCHI.

ACCORDING TO VILLAGE TRADITION ...

...THE PREY FOR THE DEMONS AT ONIGAFUCHI WAS ALWAYS ONE PERSON...

...AND APPARENTLY WAS DECIDED IN ADVANCE.

THE DEMONS IN THE VILLAGE WOULD ALL GET TOGETHER...

...AND COME TO CAPTURE THEIR PREY.

...THAT SOUNDS LIKE THIS MURDER COMMITTED BY THE VILLAGE...

EH ...? THAT ...

AS LONG AS THEY DON'T GET IN THE WAY OF THE DEMONS' HUNT, THERE WILL BE NO DAMAGE TO THE OTHER VILLAGERS.

APPARENTLY THAT WAS THE CUSTOM.

ACCORDING TO MY GRAND-MOTHER, IT WOULD SEEM THE VILLAGE HAS RULES.

THEY ARE NOT TO HELP OR SHELTER THE DEMONS' PREY.

...PROBABLY NO ONE WILL HELP... IS THAT WHAT THAT MEANS...?

...EVEN ON THE OFF-CHANCE... THAT THE CURSE COMES AGAIN NEXT YEAR...

SO ...

...AFTER THIS, THE STORY GETS TO BE VERY BORING.

MAE-BARA-SAN...

EH?

MIIIN CHIIIMIIIN MIIIN MIIIN.

Ort

I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF INVESTIGATING THEM JUST A LITTLE.

...WERE YOUR GROUP OF FRIENDS, MAEBARA-SAN.

THE PEOPLE CLOSEST TO SATOSHI-KUN, THE ONE WHO DISAPPEARED IN THE FOURTH YEAR'S INCIDENT...

AND I'LL STOP.

IF YOU GET BORED AT ANY POINT, PLEASE TELL ME.

WHA—

JUST LIKE WHEN I TALKED TO TOMITAKE-SAN—ONCE I HEAR IT, I CAN'T GO BACK.

IS THIS... A WARNING FROM OOISHI-SAN...!?

.....

...PLEASE GO ON.

...BUT I WANT TO KNOW THE TRUTH...!

GU. (CLENCH)

BUT...

FIRST, THE VICTIM IN THE FIRST YEAR WAS THE DIRECTOR OF THE DAM CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

WELL, THEN...ABOUT OYASHIRO-SAMA'S CURSE...THE SERIES OF MYSTERIOUS DEATHS SPANNING THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

THE MION I KNOW WOULD GET INTO SOME FIGHTS.

... AND ...

AH...

BUT A FEW WEEKS BEFORE THE INCIDENT ...

...HE HAD A FEW SCUFFLES WITH MION SONOZAKI.

SHE WAS SATOKO HOJO-SAN.

EH...?

...THE SECOND YEAR, A MARRIED COUPLE WHO SUPPORTED THE DAM PROJECT MET WITH AN ACCIDENT.

THE COUPLE'S DAUGHTER WAS WITH THEM AT THE SCENE.

THE THIRD YEAR, A PRIEST AND HIS WIFE PASSED AWAY.

THAT'S ...

SATOKO IS THE DAUGHTER OF THE VICTIMIZED COUPLE!?

SATOKO...

WHA —!?

THEIR DAUGHTER IS RIKA FURUDE-SAN.

IN OTHER WORDS, ALL OF THE VICTIMS ...

.....

AND THE SATOSHI HOJO-SAN WHO WENT MISSING WAS SATOKO-SAN'S BROTHER...

THE HOUSE-WIFE WHO PASSED AWAY IN THE FOURTH YEAR WAS SATOKO-SAN'S AUNT BY MARRIAGE.

...ARE CONNECTED TO YOUR CIRCLE OF FRIENDS.

BAN! (BAM!)

THAT'S OBVIOUSLY A COINCI-DENCE!!

EVERYONE'S LOOKING.

QUIET. QUIET, MAEBARA-SAN...

IT'S TRUE THAT RENA RYUGU-SAN WAS NOT ACQUAINTED WITH THE VICTIMS.

B-BUT... RENA'S NOT INVOLVED AT ALL.

WHY... WHY WOULD THAT...

...WHY DO PEOPLE CONNECTED TO MY FRIENDS COMPRISE THE CHAIN OF VICTIMS!?

BUT THERE'S A LITTLE THING THAT BOTHERS ME.

RYUGU-SAN...

...WENT AROUND BREAKING ALL THE WINDOWS AT THE SCHOOL SHE ATTENDED BEFORE MOVING TO HI-NAMIZAWA.

SHE HAS BEEN PUT UNDER HOUSE ARREST IN THE PAST.

EH...? THAT RENA?

BROKE ALL THE WINDOWS IN HER SCHOOL!?

THE WORD "OYASHIRO-SAMA."

THE CONTENTS OF THE DOCTOR'S CONVERSA-TIONS WITH RENA ARE RECORDED IN HER CLINICAL RECORDS...

AFTER THAT, RENA-SAN WAS DIAGNOSED WITH DYS-AUTONOMIA.

SHE'S ON MEDICATION AND GETS COUNSELING FROM A DOCTOR.

WH-WHAT DOES?

...AND IT COMES UP QUITE OFTEN.

OYASHIRO-SAMA...!?

AGAIN...

EVERY NIGHT, IT COMES TO HER HOUSE...

IT WOULD APPEAR IT'S A GHOST-LIKE BEING CALLED OYASHIRO-SAMA.

...AND LOOKS DOWN AT HER.

... STANDS AT HER PILLOW

...AND RYUGU-SAN ISN'T AN OUTSIDER.

I DON'T UNDER-STAND IT, EITHER...

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN ...?

I LEARNED THIS FROM HER CITIZEN CARD, BUT THE RYUGU FAMILY...

...LIVED IN HINAMIZAWA UNTIL SHE ENTERED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

EVEN IF SHE ISN'T RELATED TO THE VICTIMS...

...SHE MIGHT KNOW SOME-THING ABOUT THE CURSE.

.....

DO THEY ALL REALLY HAVE SOME CONNECTION TO OYASHIRO-SAMA'S CURSE?

...LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.

HAVE YOU TAKEN YOUR MEDICINE FOR THIS AFTER-NOON?

RENA'S PAST WAS LIKE THAT...?

I DIDN'T KNOW A THING ABOUT ANY OF THEM...

...PLEASE WAIT. WHAT ABOUT THE LAST VICTIM— TOMITAKE-SAN?

WHO'S HE CONNECTED TO?

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN, MAEBARA-SAN?

WAS THAT BECAUSE TOMITAKE-SAN WAS INVOLVED WITH EVERYONE TOO...?

DIDN'T YOU ALL HAVE FUN AND PLAY TOGETHER ON THE DAY OF THE FES-TIVAL?

HE'S CON-NECTED TO ALL OF YOU.

OOISHI-SAN...

I'M SORRY FOR TALKING TO YOU FOR SO LONG.

YOU TOOK THE DAY OFF TODAY BECAUSE YOU'RE SICK, RIGHT?

MAE-BARA-SAN!

ARE YOU TRYING TO MAKE ME SPY ON MY FRIENDS!?

...I DON'T KNOW ANY-THING, AND I CAN'T HELP YOU.

THIS IS JUST A HUNCH FROM BEING IN THIS FIELD FOR THIRTY YEARS, BUT...

SO WHY... DID YOU TELL ME ABOUT THE INCIDENTS...?

...YOU WILL BE THE NEXT ONE IN DANGER.

ZAAA BREEEEZE

AN OUT-SIDER ...

IF YOU HAD TO PICK THE CURRENT "OUTSIDER" IN THIS VILLAGE...

...THEN AN "OUTSIDER" MIGHT BE CHOSEN AGAIN AS THE NEXT VICTIM.

DOKUN (BADUM)

IF THIS YEAR'S VICTIM... IF TOMITAKE-SAN WAS KILLED JUST BECAUSE HE WAS AN "OUTSIDER"...

...IS HE SAYING THE NEXT VICTIM...

...WILL BE ME!?

MY FAMILY!?

...IT WOULD BE SOME-ONE WHO JUST MOVED HERE.

BUT IF SOMETHING HAPPENS, PLEASE CALL ME ANY TIME.

...FEEL FREE TO FORGET WHAT I SAID TO YOU TODAY.

BUT I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING.

GUH (CLENCH)

WHY SHOULD I BE KILLED?

BURORORO (VRRRROOM)

...AND I'M GOING TO BE THE NEXT VICTIM...?

SO HE'S SAYING ALL MY FRIENDS ARE INVOLVED WITH OYASHIRO-SAMA'S CURSE...

...THAT'S STUPID! I CAN'T ACCEPT IT...!

NO...

カナカナカナ...
KANA KANA KANA

カナカナカナ...
KANA KANA KANA

NGH...

NOTE: WE'VE GONE OUT TO DO SOMETHING FOR YOUR FATHER'S WORK. / MOM

TO THINK EVERYONE IN MY CLUB HAS THOSE PASTS...

EVE-NING ALREADY ...?

MY HEAD'S A MESS...

ピンポーン
PIN-POON

...WHO IS IT?

ピンポーン
PIN-POON

ピンポーン
PIN-POON

ピンポーン
PIN-POON

KEI-CHAAAAN!

YOU ALIVE?

ARE YOU FEELING ALL RIGHT? ...ARE YOU?

ドキ

DOKI (BADUMP)

MION... AND RENA...!!

SATOKO-CHAN AND RIKA-CHAN WERE WORRIED TOO...

IT'S NOT LIKE YOU TO STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL, KEI-CHAN.

WE CAME TO SEE HOW YOU'RE DOING, OF COURSE!

OH, YOU'RE SO COLD.

D-DO YOU WANT SOME-THING ...?

THEY WENT OUT OF THEIR WAY TO COME HERE...WHAT ARE THEY PLANNING...?

AH... OH. SORRY ABOUT THAT...

A GET WELL GIFT FROM MII-CHAN AND RENA.

...UM, HERE.

DON'T ACT SCARED, KEIICHI... ACT LIKE NORMAL ...!!

WH-WHAT IS IT, RENA...

DOKUN (BADUM)

DOKUN

KEIICHI-KUN?

OBAT-CHA'S HOME-MADE OHAGI.

WHOA! WHAT'S THIS?

ZUSHI (FSH)

... AND SO ...

WILL YOU BE ABLE TO FIND IT, KEIICHI-KUN?

THERE'S ONE MIXED IN THAT RENA MADE TOO.

ARE YOU CHECKING ON ME OR HAVING CLUB ACTIVITIES? PICK ONE...

AHA HA HA.

...THIS IS YOUR HOME-WORK FOR SKIP-PING CLUB TODAY!

FIND THE OHAGI RENA MADE AND GIVE US THE ANSWER TOMOR-ROW!!

THERE ARE LETTERS ON THE OHAGI.

OHH... THAT'S GOOD...

YEAH. IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE YOUR COLD'S TOO BAD.

HYOI CYOINKO

AH... THAT'S RIGHT, KEI-CHAN.

NN? WHAT?

SO THEY REALLY DID JUST COME TO SEE HOW I WAS DOING...

HO (WHEW)

YEAH. WE'LL CONTINUE THIS TOMOR-ROW.

WELL... WE SHOULDN'T BOTHER HIM TOO MUCH.

WHAT DID YOU HAVE FOR LUNCH TODAY?

AGAIN...

ぼ!!と...

...THEY COULDN'T ...KNOW I WAS WITH HIM!?

AT LUNCH TODAY...I WAS WITH OOISHI-SAN.

SO YOU WENT OUT FOR LUNCH, KEIICHI-KUN.

HMM ...

I... I ATE OUT.

GOOD?

HOW WAS IT?

WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME THAT?

WH-

ドクン ドクン

THERE'S NO WAY THEY WOULD KNOW I WAS WITH OOISHI-SAN!!

CALM DOWN... RENA AND MION SHOULD HAVE BEEN AT SCHOOL AT LUNCHTIME.

DOKUN (BADUM)

ドク

ビクッ

BIK-

WHA—

APPARENTLY YOU WERE WITH A TOUGH-LOOKING MAN.

WHO WAS HE?

HEY, KEI-CHAN.

WHO WAS HE?

WHO WAS HE?

OOOHH... WHO WAS HE, KEIICHI-KUN?

...THEN RENA WILL ANSWER FOR YOU.

MAYBE YOU CAN'T ANSWER?

クス…
KUSU (SNICKER)

ガク
GAKU

ガク
GAKU (RATTLE)

UH... AH...

DO THEY... KNOW EVERY-THING ...!?

I WON-DER ...

I WONDER IF IT WAS THE MAN YOU WERE TALKING TO IN THE CAR THE OTHER DAY?

...HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT...?

HOW...

...THERE'S NOTHING THIS OLD MAN DOESN'T KNOW.

WELL...

WHAT WERE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

AND... IT SEEMS YOU GOT VERY EXCITED AT THE TIME.

WE DIDN'T ASK IF YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT US. IT'S SUSPICIOUS THAT WE WOULD COME UP.

HMM?

IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH EITHER OF YOU!!

HOW DO THEY KNOW WHAT WAS HAPPENING SOMEPLACE WHEN THEY WEREN'T EVEN THERE!?

WHAT THE HELL ARE THESE PEOPLE?

DOKKUN (THUMP),

DOKKUN

DOKKUN

ﾌﾌﾌ
HEH HEH HEH

I THINK IT WOULD BE BEST IF YOU JUST REMEMBER THAT.

...THIS OLD MAN SEES ALL.

...WELL...

...WHATEVER YOU'RE TRYING TO HIDE...

YOU'RE RIGHT. LET'S GO HOME.

あはは、
AH HA HA!

あは、
AH HA

I THINK YOU SHOULD LIE DOWN.

KEIICHI-KUN, YOU DON'T LOOK VERY WELL.

はははは
HA HA HA HA HA

はは
HA HA

HA

HA

Oh, Yuki's room was this one.

WE DIDN'T WANT YOU TO...

...STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL TOMOR-ROW.

...MION AND RENA KNEW...

THEY KNEW THAT I WAS TALKING TO THE POLICE AT LUNCH.

I DON'T KNOW HOW... BUT...

GAKU

GAKU (RATTLE)

...EVERY-THING I DO GOES DIRECTLY TO THEM.

...THAT'S OBVIOUS.

HAA

CALM DOWN... CALM DOWN, KEIICHI MAEBARA!

HAA (HUFF)

SO WHAT WERE RENA AND MION TRYING TO TELL ME!?

...NOT TO SAY TOO MUCH TO OOISHI-SAN.

THEY WERE WARNING ME...

HERE WE WERE HAVING SO MUCH FUN EVERY DAY.

WHOSE FAULT IS IT THAT OUR DAILY LIFE WAS DESTROYED?

THAT'S RIGHT...I SHOULDN'T TALK TO OOISHI-SAN.

I MEAN, HE SUSPECTS MY FRIENDS.

NO, EVERYTHING WENT CRAZY BECAUSE TOMITAKE-SAN TOLD ME ABOUT THE DISMEMBERED BODY IN THE FIRST PLACE.

IT'S OOISHI-SAN'S FAULT FOR TALKING ABOUT OYASHIRO-SAMA.

I GET IT... THAT'S WHY.

THAT'S WHY EVERYONE...

DO

DO

DO

...AND HE JUST BLABBED AWAY.

EVERYONE WAS NICE ENOUGH TO HIDE IT FROM ME...

DO (THUMP)

DO

DO

ALL BECAUSE TOMITAKE-SAN TOLD ME THAT STUPID STUFF.

...XXED TOMITAKE-SAN.

DESERVE TO BE XXED!!!

GUYS LIKE THEM!

HE SHOULD MEET WITH OYASHIRO-SAMA'S CURSE AND BE XXED.

HE WAS XXED BECAUSE HE TALKED ABOUT SOMETHING HE SHOULDN'T HAVE.

THEN I'M SURE OOISHI-SAN WILL BE XXED TOO.

...LIKE TOMITAKE-SAN OR OOISHI-SAN.

I HAVEN'T BEEN TALKING TO EVERYBODY ABOUT THE CURSE...

IT'S OKAY...

GAKU (COLLAPSE)

I'M SURE EVERYONE WILL WELCOME ME LIKE THEY ALWAYS DO...

I'LL FORGET ALL ABOUT THE INCIDENTS, CHEER UP, AND GO TO SCHOOL TOMORROW ...

...AH.

THE OHAGI... I HAVE TO EAT THEM BY TOMORROW...

...BECAUSE I'M THEIR FRIEND...

A
B
C
D
E

NEWSPAPER: HINAMI—

I JUST HAVE TO GUESS WHICH ONE OF THESE RENA MADE, RIGHT?

BASED ON THEIR LOOKS, I'D DEFINITELY GO WITH E, BUT...

I HAVE TO EAT THE OHAGI AND GO TO SCHOOL LIKE THEY TOLD ME TO...

BUT I'M IMPRESSED THAT THEY'D DELIVER MY CLUB ACTIVITY.

THAT'S RIGHT. BECAUSE I'M THEIR FRIEND.

...I GUESS I SHOULD JUDGE AFTER I EAT THEM.

モグ…

MOGU (MUNCH)

NN? THERE'S SOMETHING INSIDE?

AND THEN OUR FUN DAYS WILL COME BACK...

WE'LL HAVE CLUB LIKE NOTHING EVER HAPPENED.

...WHAT THE HECK DID THEY PUT IN IT...?

GARI (CRUNCH)

THEY PUT SOME-THING IN THE OHAGI ...?

WHAT WOULD THEY PUT IN OHAGI ...?

M...

SO (SUDDENLY)

BLOOD ...?

EH...?

WHA!?

WHY ...?

A SEWING NEEDLE?

...THAT'S RIDIC-ULOUS...

THAT ...

...IN THE OHAGI...

THERE WAS A SEWING NEEDLE...

HA HA...

HA...

はは…HA HA…

...PLAYING SUCH AN ELABORATE PRANK...

RENA AND MION ARE BOTH SO HOPELESS...

FRAME
P

IF

...RENA AND MION...
IN OTHER WORDS, THIS MEANS...

...THINK I SHOULD ...

...JUST DIE.

ああ
ああ
ああ

ぶち…
ビッ
ビッ
ビッ

ドクン

DOKUN

ドクン

THIS ISN'T A THREAT OR A WARNING...

...MY LIFE IS IN DANGER.

DOKUN (BADUM)

ドクン

ヨロ

YORO (STAGGER)

BECAUSE I TALKED TO THE POLICE ABOUT EVERY-ONE!?

WHY? BECAUSE I HEARD ABOUT THE DISMEM-BERED BODY?

YOU WILL BE THE NEXT ONE IN DANGER.

WHAT DID I DO...?

DAMMIT.

...WITH-OUT KNOWING WHY!!?

YOU THINK I'D LET MYSELF GET KILLED...

Higurashi
WHEN THEY CRY
~GETTING SEXY ARC~

OMAKE ①

CHAPTER 5: ISOLATION

STEP...

STEP...

STEP...

STEP...

STEP...

PLEASE... JUST LEAVE...

SOME-THING'S OUTSIDE MY ROOM...

STOP

STEP...

IF IT COMES INTO MY ROOM NOW ...!!

UWAAA-AAHH!!

WHA— KEIICHI, WHAT'S THE MATTER!?

AH...

SORRY... I WAS HALF ASLEEP...

OH, THAT'S RIGHT. WERE YOU THE ONE WHO THREW THE BOTAMOCHI AT THE WALL, KEIICHI?

SHA (WHOOSH)

EVEN MY DREAMS ARE AWFUL...

JUST LIVING MY LIFE IS A MISERY.

はあ...

HAA (SIGH)

ISN'T IT GOOD THAT I'M EVEN ALIVE...?

THERE WERE NEEDLES IN THE OHAGI.

.....

YOU SHOULDN'T BE SO ROUGH WITH YOUR FOOD!

I HAVE TO GO TO SCHOOL TODAY...

I DON'T NEED MOM TO TELL ME.

...STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL TOMORROW.

WE DON'T WANT YOU TO...

THINK YOU CAN GO TO SCHOOL TODAY?

HOW ARE YOU?

GOOD MORNING, KEIICHI-KUN!

PIN-POOON (DING-DOOONG)

ピンポーン

YOU WERE LATE, SO I CAME TO GET YOU...

CAN YOU GO TO SCHOOL TO-DAY?

...CAN YOU?

HOW CAN SHE LOOK SO CALM?

ドキ

DOKI (BADUM)

ドキ

DOKI

Y-YEAH ...

IF YOU DON'T HURRY, YOU'LL BE LATE!

TAKE CARE OF KEIICHI, RENA-CHAN!

NIKO (SMILE)

にこ

YES, OBA-SAMA!

...MOM DOESN'T UNDER-STAND...

OR THAT MY LIFE IS IN DAN-GER...

...THE MADNESS THAT SLEEPS IN HINAMI-ZAWA.

...AH.

AND GUESS WHAT? YESTERDAY, SATOKO-CHAN AND RIKA-CHAN...

LET'S HURRY, KEIICHI-KUN!

I WONDER IF MII-CHAN'S MAD.

IT LOOKS LIKE MII-CHAN WENT ON AHEAD OF US.

TODAY... SHE'S THE NORMAL RENA...

YEAH ...

I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

TO THINK THAT THIS RENA WOULD PUT NEEDLES IN OHAGI.

NN?

AND, KEIICHI-KUN?

DID YOU MAKE SURE TO EAT THE OHAGI YESTERDAY?

WH-WHAT THE HELL DOES SHE MEAN BY THAT!?

.....!

UH, NGH...

IS SHE ASKING IF I GOT THE WARNING FROM THE NEEDLE?

DID YOU EAT ALL OF THEM?

ドキ・・

(DOKIN BADUM)

I-I WASN'T HUNGRY, SO I COULDN'T EAT ALL OF THEM...

HMM, I SEE...

ドキン DOKIN (BADUM)

ドキン DOKIN

ドキン DOKIN

YOU'RE SURE TO GET A PENALTY GAME TODAY, KEIICHI-KUN.

...YOU HAD UNTIL TODAY TO GUESS WHICH OHAGI RENA MADE.

EH HEH!

OOISHI-SAN WAS SAYING, WASN'T HE...?

BUT I CAN'T LET MY GUARD DOWN.

TODAY... SHE'S THE NORMAL RENA.

HO (WHEW)

HA... HA HA... OH YEAH...

SHE HAS BEEN PUT UNDER HOUSE ARREST.

RENA RYUGU WENT AROUND BREAKING ALL THE WINDOWS IN HER SCHOOL.

NO ONE AROUND HER CAN STOP HER.

RENA KEEPS WALKING, BREAKING GLASS.

I WONDER IF IT EXPLODED?

RENA HAS A DEVILISH-NESS HIDING INSIDE HER.

...SHE MERCI-LESSLY BEAT THE WINDOW PANES...

PAYING NO ATTENTION TO THE PIECES OF BROKEN GLASS...

NOT JUST ONE OR TWO PANES.

SHE BROKE ALL THE WINDOWS IN HER SCHOOL.

THAT'S NOT THE ACT OF A SANE PERSON...

WHAT PROMPTED RENA TO BEHAVE THAT WAY?

OYASHIRO-SAMA...

...THE GUARDIAN DEITY OF HINAMI-ZAWA.

IT CAME UP QUITE OFTEN IN RENA-SAN'S COUNSELING RECORDS.

THE WORD "OYASHIRO-SAMA."

ARE YOU TELLING ME RENA IS POS-SESSED BY IT...?

...BUT THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS CURSES.

SO DID RENA REALLY...

...DECIDE TO GO AFTER ME OF HER OWN FREE WILL?

IS IT BECAUSE I TALKED TO OOISHI-SAN?

WHY ON EARTH...?

WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL ME?

HEY, TELL ME.

OR IS IT BECAUSE I'M AN OUTSIDER?

GOOD MORNING, SIR.

OH-HO-HO! IT SUITS YOU, MR. HOOKY PLAYER!

BAFUN (PLOP)

THE MORNING IS THE SAME AS USUAL.

KEHO (COUGH)

GOOD MORNING, SATOKO-CHAN, RIKA-CHAN!

YO! KEI-CHAN!

YES, GO EASY ON HIM TODAY...

DID YOU GET ALL YOUR REST?

PUNI (POKE)

BUT I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THESE TWO ARE THINKING DEEP DOWN...

GATAN (CLATTER)

...YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE NOT ALL BETTER YET, KEI-ICHI, SIR.

...EVEN SHE'S TRYING TO KILL ME...

BUT I SHOULDN'T FORGET...

MION... SHE'S MY COMRADE, MY BEST FRIEND, AND A NICE GIRL.

OH DEAR... IT CAN'T BE HELPED THEN.

KEIICHI-KUN SAYS HE FORGOT HIS HOME-WORK.

NO...I HAD NO APPETITE ...

DID YOU MAKE SURE TO DO YOUR OHAGI HOME-WORK?

I DON'T SENSE AN IOTA OF HOSTILITY FROM MION OR THE OTHERS NOW...

AH-HA-HA-HA-HA!

ALRIGHT, THEN YOU GET THE PENALTY GAME... HEE-HEE-HEE!

...WERE THEY ALL SOME KIND OF MISUNDER-STANDING?

HEY, THE NEEDLES IN THE OHAGI, AND RENA'S DRASTIC CHANGE...

A GUY NAMED SATOSHI WHO WAS IN THIS CLASSROOM WAS ERASED A YEAR AGO.

WHAT AM I SAYING? IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT.

SIGN: SATOKO / RIKA / SATOSHI

梨花 悟史

はっ

(HA! (GASP!))

I'M THE NEXT ONE TO BE ERASED!

DON'T LET EVERY-ONE FOOL YOU.

ぎゅ…

(GYU (CLENCH))

DON'T LET YOUR-SELF BE FOOLED.

...NO ONE WOULD SUSPECT RENA OR MION.

EVEN IF I DISAP-PEARED TOMOR-ROW...

GET RID OF YOUR NAIVE HOPES, KEIICHI MAEBARA!

THE HAPPY DAYS I WAS TRYING TO PROTECT ARE ALREADY GONE, NEVER TO RETURN.

NOTE: SUCCESSFULLY FELL INTO 20 TRAPS!

YOU HAVE TO BE THE ONE TO PROTECT YOURSELF.

YOU CAN'T TRUST ANYONE IN HINAMIZAWA ...!

KEIICHI-SAN, ARE YOU GETTING READY TO GO HOME ALREADY?

TON

TON (TAP)

RIIIN (BUZZZ)

RIIIN

AFTER SCHOOL

DON'T ACT SO FRIENDLY !!

YOU'RE TRYING TO KILL ME...

IS TODAY NOT A GOOD DAY? ...IS IT?

YOU'RE JOINING US FOR CLUB TODAY, AREN'T YOU?

なでNADE (PET)なでNADE

You don't look very well, Keiichi, sir.

You poor, poor thing.

PLEASE DON'T BE NICE TO ME...

GU (CLENCH)

...GH

POFU (PAT)

ぽふ。

KEIICHI-KUN...

JUST A— KEI-CHAN...

I-I WONDER ...

IF YOU'D LEAVE ME ALONE FOR A WHILE...

GATAN (CLATTER)

ガラ-!..

YOU'RE AFTER MY LIFE, AREN'T YOU...?

AND THE WHOLE VILLAGE MIGHT BE AGAINST ME.

...MY LIFE IS IN DANGER.

...SHOULD I TELL MY PARENTS EVERY-THING...?

MY ONLY ALLIES ARE MY FAMILY...

カナカナカナ...

KANA (CICADA) KANA KANA

IN PAST INCIDENTS, WEREN'T THERE A LOT OF TIMES WHEN COUPLES WERE THE VICTIMS...?

...I CAN'T. MY PARENTS MIGHT BE TARGETED ...

...JUST FOR KNOWING TOO MUCH.

...THE ONLY PERSON I HAVE LEFT TO RELY ON...

OOISHI-SAN IS ABOUT...

...THEY SHOULD SHOW THEM-SELVES TO ME.

WHEN THEY COME FOR ME...

THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO SAVE MYSELF.

AND HAVE OOISHI-SAN ROUND THEM ALL UP.

I'LL ESCAPE IN THE NICK OF TIME AND GRAB SOME EVIDENCE.

NO... IT'S NOT A QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT I CAN.

DOKUN (BADUM)

...CAN I DO IT?

RIGHT. I HAVE TO LOOK FOR A WEAPON TO DEFEND MYSELF WITH.

...I'LL MAKE TODAY THE LAST DAY I GO TO SCHOOL WITH RENA.

I HAVE TO!!

GU (CLENCH)

I'LL MAKE SOME INSURANCE IN CASE THE UN-THINKABLE HAPPENS.

KATAN (CLATTER)

AND ONE MORE THING.

...OOISHI-SAN CAN AVENGE ME...

...SO THAT EVEN IF I DISAPPEAR ...

I'LL WRITE DOWN EVERY-THING THAT HAPPENS FROM NOW ON...

I, KEIICHI MAEBARA, AM IN MORTAL DANGER.

I DON'T KNOW WHO IS TRYING TO KILL ME OR WHY.

THE ONE THING I KNOW IS THAT IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH OYASHIRO-SAMA'S CURSE.

NOW I HAVE TO HIDE THE NOTE...

IF I LEARN ANY NEW FACTS, I'LL WRITE THOSE DOWN TOO.

...THE POLICE WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT WAS A CURSE, WOULD THEY...?

...I'LL NEED TO MAKE SURE THIS NOTE GETS TO THE POLICE...

AND IN CASE ANYTHING HAPPENS TO ME...

ALRIGHT.

...THEY PROBABLY WON'T FIND IT TOO EASILY...

IF I HIDE IT BEHIND THIS CLOCK...

SHOULDN'T YOU GO CHECK ON THINGS IN TOKYO?

AT THIS RATE, IT'LL GET IN THE WAY OF MY WORK GRRR...

IF I DIE...

WE'RE TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING URGENT. CAN IT WAIT...?

.....EH?

.....

...KEIICHI.

THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND AN ARTIST'S MOTIVA-TION.

DAD, MOM. CAN I TALK TO YOU FOR A SECOND ...?

...I WANT YOU TO PUT THE WALL CLOCK IN MY ROOM IN MY COFFIN...

IF I DIE...

IS SOMETHING BOTHERING YOU?

...WHAT'S WRONG, KEIICHI...? DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

PLEASE ...

...I REALLY LIKE THAT CLOCK.

JUST A... KEI-ICHI!

...WELL, I'M GOING TO BED NOW. GOOD NIGHT.

...BUT THIS WAY THEY SHOULD NOTICE THE NOTE BEHIND THE CLOCK WHEN THE TIME COMES.

I'M SORRY FOR WORRYING THEM...

THERE WILL PROBABLY BE SOME KIND OF WEAPON AT THE SCHOOL.

I'LL WAKE UP EARLY TOMORROW AND GO TO SCHOOL.

WAIT! KEIICHI!

I WILL NOT...BE KILLED!!

TOMORROW I START MY FIGHT ALONE...

THE NEXT MORNING

...TELL RENA I'M GOING ON AHEAD.

GOING TO SCHOOL ALREADY? YOU'RE NOT GOING WITH RENA-CHAN?

BAN (BAM)

KANA KANA KANA...

KANA (CHIRP) KANA KANA...

IT MAKES IT HARD TO BELIEVE THERE'S MADNESS SQUIRMING IN THIS VILLAGE.

THE HINAMIZAWA SCENERY IS AS PEACEFUL AS EVER.

...I'LL PROBABLY NEVER WALK IT WITH HER AGAIN...

PAPPAAA (HO-HOOOHO)

THE PATH I WALKED WITH RENA EVERY MORN-ING...

GET CLOSER TO THE SHOULDER OF THE ROAD!

PAPPA

? WHAT'S WITH THIS CAR?

IT'S DANGEROUS FOR YOU TO BE RIGHT BEHIND ME.

BURORO (VRRROOM)

HEY, ARE YOU SPEEDING UP?

BUON (VOOM)

PAAA

IS IT GONNA HIT ME!?

ガチャ

ガチャ

UWAAAAH!

ドッパーン!

DOPPAAAN (KERSPLAAASH)

キ

KI (SCREE)

—GH!!

ケホッ

GEHO (COUGH)

ZAPA (SPLASH)

BUON (MOON)

STUPID MORON! WAIT, DAMMIT!!

...WANTED TO SAY IT WAS AN ACCI-DENT...

NO... COULD IT BE THAT CAR...

HA (GASP)

WHAT WAS THAT!?

YOU REALLY ALMOST HIT ME!!

ZOWA (CHILL)

...AND WAS TRYING TO HIT ME...?

IT MIGHT HAVE JUST BEEN A REAL ACCIDENT.

DOKIN

DOKIN

CALM DOWN. CALM DOWN.

DOKIN (BADUM)

DOKIN

...THEY'LL COME AT ME WITH MORE SUREFIRE METHODS ...!!

DOKUN (BADUM)

...NEXT TIME...

BUT IF THEY REALLY WERE COMING AFTER ME, TRYING TO HIT ME...

...WOULD ALL GET TOGETHER AND COME TO CAPTURE THEIR PREY.

THE DEMONS IN THE VILLAGE...

WHOEVER THE ENEMY MAY BE..

...THERE'S NO WAY I'M GOING TO DIE FOR THEM!!

TAPUN

TAPUN

TAPUN

WHY DOES MY LIFE HAVE TO BE TAKEN FROM ME?

TAPUN (SPLISH)

LIKE HELL I'D LET MYSELF BE KILLED WITHOUT KNOWING WHY.

BAN (BAM)

THE CLASS-ROOM

ANYTHING WILL DO, EVEN A MOP.

ガタ GATA (CLATTER)

ガタ GATAN

I DON'T KNOW WHO WILL COME AFTER ME OR WHEN.

I HAVE TO SECURE A WEAPON BEFORE EVERYONE GETS HERE...

HAA (HUFF) はぁ

はぁ HAA

ISN'T THERE SOME KIND OF WEAPON I?

ガタン GATAN

EH...? A BAT...?

カラーン KARAN (CLATTER)

I'M GONNA BORROW THIS BAT FOR A WHILE.

I DON'T KNOW WHOSE IT IS, BUT IT'S PERFECT.

7

DID THIS LOCKER... BELONG TO SOMEONE WHO WAS INTO BASEBALL?

THIS COULD MAKE A PERFECT WEAPON.

IT'S LONG... AND IT HAS A MODERATE WEIGHT.

GYU (SQUEEZE)

Please don't lose that bat, sir.

...IS THIS THE ONLY THING I CAN RELY ON...?

SINCE I CAN'T GET HELP FROM ANYONE ...

RIKA-CHAN...

—!!

KEIICHI-SAN! YOU'RE HERE EARLY THIS MORNING.

NIDAAA (BEEEEAM)

... GOOD MOR-NING, SIR.

DOES RIKA-CHAN KNOW WHOSE BAT THIS IS?

...UNTIL THEY COMPLAIN TO ME DIRECTLY.

IT DOESN'T MATTER. I'LL JUST BORROW IT FOR A WHILE ...

UH, OH... STUFF HAPPENED ...

SA (HIDE)

WH-WHAT HAPPENED? YOU'RE COVERED IN MUD!

FROM NOW ON, I'LL BE PRACTICING MY SWING.

THEN NO ONE WILL LOOK AT ME SUSPICIOUSLY IF I'M CARRYING A BAT AROUND.

BUN (SWING)

BUN

BIKU (JUMP)

HUUUHH? KEI-CHAN!?

...YOU CAN'T TELL BY WATCH-ING?

I'LL EVEN GO ON A DIET IF I HAVE TO.

I'M PRAC-TICING MY SWING. I'M GOING TO KOUSHIEN.

BUN

ARE YOU ON THE BASEBALL TEAM, KEIICHI-KUN? THE BASEBALL TEAM?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE SO EARLY IN THE MORNING?

YEAH. I'VE GOT LIKE THREE STOMACHS, AND I'M ALL PUDGY AND ROLY-POLY.

ARE YOU THAT FAT, KEI-CHAN?

RENA, YOU'RE IMAGINING SOMETHING WEIRD, AREN'T YOU?

ROLY-POLY...

はぅ OHH

P-PUDGY.

I HEAR KAMEDA-KUN FROM OOSHIMA PREFECTURAL SCHOOL IS AN AMAZING PITCHER.

GOOD LUCK!

WELL, WE HAVE CLASS, SO WE'LL GO ON AHEAD.

THEY'RE TRYING TO KILL ME!!

WH-WHAT AM I SMILING ABOUT?

はっ HA (GASP)

YEAH.

SEE YA ...

DON'T HAVE ANY FEELINGS FOR THEM, KEIICHI MAEBARA!!

THROW AWAY YOUR NAIVE HOPES!

—GH!

IN HINAMIZAWA...

BA (RAISE)

GAN (WHAM)

FORGET ALL YOUR MEMORIES WITH THEM!

DON'T MISJUDGE YOUR ENEMIES!

BUN (SWING)

...EVERYONE IS YOUR ENEMY!!

BAN (CLANG)

I'M GOING HOME TODAY.

HUH? KEI-CHAN?

AFTER SCHOOL

RIIIN (BUZZZ) RIIIN

...GH...

.....

YOU'RE GOING STRAIGHT HOME AGAIN...? WHAT ABOUT THE CLUB ...?

KEI-CHAN...

DON'T BOTHER WITH ME ANYMORE...

GATAN (CLATTER)

ガタン...

DAMMIT DAMMIT DAMMIT !!!

DAMMIT ...

YOU DON'T KNOW WHEN THE ENEMY COULD COME AFTER YOU...

HANG IN THERE, KEIICHI.

GYU (CLENCH)

...BUT REJECTING MY FRIENDS HURTS MY CHEST SO MUCH I CAN'T TAKE IT...

I'VE ALMOST BEEN KILLED TWICE ALREADY ...

EH?

THERE'S SOMEONE BEHIND ME?

HITA (STEP)

SHIN (SILENCE)

D-DAMMIT, THEY'RE COMING FOR ME AL-READY!?

BA (TURN)

WH-WHO'S THERE!?

DOKUN

DOKUN

...TCH.

COME OUT HERE ...

YOU'RE THERE, AREN'T YOU...?

I KNOW YOU'RE THERE!!

IF THEY WON'T COME FOR ME, I'LL GO FOR THEM...!!

ZA (CRUNCH)

!!

OHH...

RENA...!

...
KEH.

I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU, KEIICHI-KUN...

...WHAT DO YOU WANT?

WHAT'S SHE DOING, SNEAKING AROUND BEHIND ME?

IF SHE WAS WORRIED ABOUT ME, SHE SHOULD HAVE SAID SOMETHING AND COME WITH ME.

DON'T LET THOSE WORDS GET YOUR GUARD DOWN...

WANTS TO WALK HOME WITH KEIICHI-KUN...

R-RENA ...

KA (SNAP)

THIS GIRL.

SHE STILL WANTS TO ACT LIKE MY FRIEND!?

IF YOU'RE GOING HOME, THEN GO HOME AL-READY!

DON'T FOLLOW ME ANY-MORE!

BUN (SWING)

I WON'T FALL FOR IT!!

JUST... GO HOME ...!!

I-I'M LEAVING, SO STOP USING THE BAT!!

KON (VHOOM)

I...I-I-I-I-I'M SORRY!!

KON (CLUNK)

THAT BAT... SCARES ME!!

GO ...!

HERE... NOW YOU CAN'T COM-PLAIN, RIGHT?

BUT I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU SCARED IF I CAN HELP IT.

YOU'RE MY ENEMY.

NOW GO ALREADY.

WHAT? DON'T STOP...!

ぴた (PITA) (STOP)

UH, UM... KEIICHI-KUN...

WHY DO YOU HAVE SATOSHI-KUN'S BAT?

WH-WHY...?

ZAAAAA (BREEEEZE)

EH?

SATOSHI HOJO...

THE NAME OF THE STUDENT WHO WENT MISSING ONE YEAR AGO...

SO THIS WAS SATOSHI'S BAT...?

I-I'M JUST BORROWING IT...

DOES IT MATTER...?

FOR YOU TO SUDDENLY START CARRYING A BAT AROUND LIKE SATOSHI-KUN...

LIKE SATOSHI-KUN...YOU SAID?

IT'S WEIRD... DEFINITELY WEIRD...

YOU WEREN'T SOMEONE WHO WAS INTO SPORTS, KEIICHI-KUN.

SATOSHI-KUN TOO. HE SUDDENLY STARTED WALKING TO SCHOOL BY HIMSELF ONE DAY.

LIKE YOU, KEIICHI-KUN.

AND ONE DAY HE SUDDENLY STARTED PRACTICING HIS SWING.

LIKE YOU, KEIICHI-KUN.

SA-SATOSHI TOOK THE SAME PRE-CAUTIONS I DID!?

THAT'S RIDICULOUS...!!

WHAT HAP-PENED TO SA-TOSHI!?

ANSWER ME, RENA.

ZAH! (CRUNCH)

AND ONE DAY HE SUDDENLY ...

HA! (GASP!)

...WHAT HAP-PENED TO SATOSHI!?

AFTER THAT ...

GA (GRAB)

SATOSHI-KUN...

I TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I, KEIICHI-KUN?

...
"TRANSFERRED SCHOOLS."

TRANS-
FERRED
SCHOOLS?

TR-

YOU WON'T
DO THAT,
WILL YOU,
KEIICHI-
KUN?

YOU WON'T
TRANSFER
SCHOOLS,
WILL YOU,
KEIICHI-
KUN?

TH-

THAT'S...

CAMOUFLAGING IT BY PRACTICING MY SWING...

CHOOSING A BAT AS MY WEAPON ..

DECIDING TO FIGHT ON MY OWN. .

AROUND THIS SAME TIME A YEAR AGO...

...SATOSHI HAD ALREADY DONE ALL THIS!?

AND SATOSHI ENDED UP MISSING.

SO... WILL I TOO...?

YOU WON'T TRANSFER SCHOOLS, WILL YOU?

AT THIS RATE I'LL BE ERASED

AT THIS RATE JUST LIKE SATOSHI I'LL

OMAKE②

HINA-MIZAWA IS AFTER MY LIFE.

SO I TOOK UP A WEAPON AND RE-SOLVED TO STAY ALIVE.

THERE WAS A NEEDLE IN THE GET-WELL OHAGI.

I NEARLY GOT RUN OVER BY A MYSTERIOUS WHITE VAN.

BUT APPARENTLY MY ACTIONS ARE EXACTLY THE SAME AS SATOSHI'S WERE ONE YEAR AGO.

THIS SATOSHI WAS "DEMONED AWAY" BACK THEN AND HASN'T BEEN HEARD FROM SINCE...

WILL I BE FORCED TO "TRANSFER SCHOOLS" TOO...?

SATOSHI-KUN "TRANSFERRED SCHOOLS."

CHAPTER 6: REMA RYUGU

OMAKE③

MIIIN CHUMM MIN MIN MIN...

SATOSHI AND I FOLLOWED THE SAME COURSE OF ACTION.....

HE SUDDENLY STARTED GOING TO SCHOOL BY HIMSELF, WALKING AROUND WITH A BAT, PRACTICING HIS SWING...

MIIIN MIN

MIIIN MIN

... TARGETED BY THE VILLAGE LIKE ME ...?

AROUND THE SAME TIME LAST YEAR, WAS SATOSHI ...

WHERE THE HELL DID HE TRANSFER TO...THE NEXT LIFE!?

HE FOUGHT BY HIMSELF, BUT IN THE END HE WAS "TRANSFERRED."

PETA (STEP)

ZA (CRUNCH)

PETA

ZA

DAMMIT... LIKE HELL IF I'LL LET THEM "TRANSFER" ME.

PETA

...NOW WHADDAYA WANT?

IS RENA BACK?

...FOOT-STEPS?

シン…
SHIN (SILENCE)

BUT I GUESS I'M JUST BEING PARANOID ...?

I FELT LIKE SOMEONE WAS THERE.

WAS I... IMAGINING THINGS?

HUH ...?

ガチャ
GACHA (KA-CHAK)

ミーン ミンミンミン…
MIIIN (HIIIMM) MIN MIN MIN.

WHAT? MOM AND DAD ARE OUT?

SOMETHING IS DEFINITELY HERE...

FOOT-STEPS AGAIN...

NO ONE SHOULD'VE BEEN ABLE TO GET NEAR ME...

I WAS SO CAREFUL NOT TO BE FOL-LOWED.

TH-THAT'S RIDICU-LOUS ...

...THERE'S NO WAY ANYONE'S HERE...

GOKU (GULP)

THERE'S NO WAY ANYONE'S HERE.

THERE AREN'T ANY SHADOWS HERE BUT MINE.

SO WHY DO I FEEL LIKE SOMEONE'S WATCHING ME?

BUT IF NO ONE'S BEHIND ME...

IF I TURN AROUND NOW, I MIGHT FIND OUT.

...JUST "WHAT" IS BE-HIND ME?

WH-

WHO'S THERE ...?

...WILL I BE ABLE TO ACCEPT THAT...?

SUU (INHALE)

SOMETHING IS THERE.

カタ (KATA SHAKE)

カタ (KATA)

THE SOUND OF INHALING ...!!

...IS AFTER ME!!!

SOMETHING INEXPLICABLE...

U..

UWAH ...

AA-
A-

UWAA
AAA-

AA-

AA-

VON!
(WHOOSH!)

DOGOOOO
(SMAAAASH)

AA
AAA
HHH
HHH
!!!

HUFF...

HUFF

HUFF HUFF

THERE'S... NOTHING HERE...

HUFF...

WHAT WAS THAT JUST NOW?

THERE WAS NO ONE NEAR ME.

THEY'RE NOT HERE, BUT THEY ARE HERE... THAT'S IM-POSSIBLE ...

CAN IT REALLY BE... OYASHIRO-SAMA'S CURSE ...?

I HEARD FOOTSTEPS AND BREATHING.

BUT I'M SURE THERE WAS SOMETHING BEHIND ME.

THAT'S RIGHT. THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS PARANORMAL PHENOMENA LIKE CURSES.

OOISHI-SAN DEFINITIVELY SAID THAT THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS A CURSE.

...AND THE MURDERS, THE CURSE, AND MY FRIENDS' DRASTIC CHANGES WERE ALL ILLUSIONS.

ACTUALLY, IT WOULD BE SO NICE IF I WAS THE CRAZY ONE...

...I HEARD FOOT-STEPS...

... BUT I'M SURE ...

HAVE I GONE CRAZY?

WAS IT ALL MY IMAGI-NATION?

GAKU (COLLAPSE)

7...

I DON'T CARE IF IT'S OYASHIRO-SAMA OR ANYONE ELSE...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S WHAT ANYMORE.

...THEN THE CURSE DOESN'T EXIST, AND RENA AND THE OTHERS ARE STILL THE BEST FRIENDS A GUY COULD HAVE.

IF IT'S JUST THAT SOME-THING'S WRONG WITH ME...

MIIN CHIIIN MIN MIN MIN...

...JUST GIVE ME MY GOOD OLD LIFE BACK...

Keiichi? It's your mother.

...HELLO, MAEBARA RESIDENCE ...

ガチャ GACHA (CLICK)

ARE YOU CALLING ABOUT DINNER?

IF SHE'S CALLING THIS LATE AT NIGHT...

THE PHONE ...?

RRRRR

RRRRR

Keiichi, I didn't call to talk about dinner.

JUST COME HOME ALREADY SO I CAN RELAX.

CUP: JUMBO

WE STILL HAVE SOME OF THE GINGER PORK FLAVORED RAMEN WE BOUGHT IN BULK AT SEVENS MART.

I'M OKAY WITH INSTANT.

CUP: GINGER PORK FLAVOR

...EH!?

...have to go to Tokyo on urgent business.

Mom and Dad...

DOKI (BADUM)

? Keiichi, don't be selfish.

Y-YOU CAN'T LEAVE THE HOUSE AT A TIME LIKE THIS!!

.....

Be a little more supportive of your father in his job, okay?

BUT ...

YOU'RE GOING TO LEAVE ME ALONE NOW? WHEN THE WHOLE VILLAGE IS AFTER ME!?

KORO (ROLL)

TOKYO? WHY ALL OF A SUDDEN !!?

KORO KORO...

Your dad's work isn't going so well right now.

...

You'll be all right by yourself, won't you, Kenchi?

...We'll be coming back tomorrow evening.

SO TONIGHT ...

CLICK

RRRRRR

THE PHONE AGAIN..

RRRRR

WHAT IS IT THIS TIME?

TTTTTT...

...I'LL BE ALL ALONE IN THIS HOUSE ...?

—!!

OOISHI-SAN!!

This is Ooishi from Okinomiya Books.

AH... YES... WAIT A SECOND, OKAY !!?

DAN

DAN (STOMP)

Is this Maebara-san? I'm glad you're doing well.

.....

How are things going? Has anything unusual happened?

...IT LOOKS LIKE THEY REALLY ARE TRYING TO KILL ME...

...Is that true?

GYU (CLENCH)

S-SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING ...

OOISHI-SAN IS THE ONLY ONE I CAN RELY ON NOW...

BOKA (THUD)

WAS THAT A THREAT ...?

GUH (CLENCH)

...THERE WERE NEEDLES INSIDE THEM...

RENA AND MION LEFT ME SOME OHAGI AS A GET-WELL PRESENT...

EH?

And the needle?

That needle is evidence.

—!!?

IT HAD A HOLE TO PUT THREAD THROUGH ...

UM, IT LOOKED LIKE AN ORDINARY SEWING NEEDLE.

That's not what I meant, Maebara-san.

BA (BAM)

DAN (STOMP)

It might prove that you've been threat-ened.

If we do that, we can move in the open.

DAN

THE ROOM'S BEEN CLEANED ...!!

HUFF

HUFF

...DAMMIT!

I WAS SO FREAKED OUT I THREW IT AWAY WITH THE OHAGI.

BUT THAT NEEDLE WAS MY ONLY PIECE OF VALUABLE EVIDENCE!!

BASAAA (FLLLAP)

OH YEAH, MAYBE...

I TURNED OVER THE RUG, BUT I STILL CAN'T FIND IT ANY-WHERE!!

NEEDLE, NEEDLE ...

カパッ
KAPA (KAPOD)

-GH ...

BUT THAT NEEDLE IS MY ONE PIECE OF EVIDENCE ...

BUT LOOKING FOR A NEEDLE IN THIS...

UGH... I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE IN THE TRASH CAN.

BOFLIN (POFF)

IF I HIT IT WITH MY HAND, I MIGHT FIND IT BY THE FEEL OF THE NEEDLE.

BECHIN

BECHIN

BECHIN WHAP!

PLEASE COME OUT ...!!

GEHO (COUGH)

GEHO

GEHO...!

BEN

BEN

BEN (BAP)

はあ HAA

はあ HAA (HUFF)

DON'T TELL ME MOM THREW IT OUT...?

IT'S NOT HERE... IT'S NOT ANYWHERE IN HERE...

はあ... HAA...

NOTE: DID YOU SEE A NEEDLE?

I'LL JUST HAVE TO ASK MOM WHEN SHE GETS BACK...

ばん! BAN (BAM)

KEH ...

SFX: KOPUKYUKYU (SQUEAK)

DAMMIT, I'M SO STUPID...

A- ALSO ...

It's all right. But if you do find it, please keep it safe.

AND I LOST THE ONLY EVIDENCE WE'VE GOT...

No prob- lem.

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAIT- ING.

KACHA (CLICK)

...THIS MORNING, I WAS NEARLY RUN OVER.

BLOOO (WHOOOM)

A WHITE STATION WAGON CAME AT ME WITH INCREDIBLE SPEED...!

...THE LICENSE PLATE...

は... (HA (GASP))

Yes, we'll look for the car.

I ONLY HAVE CIRCUM-STANTIAL EVIDENCE, BUT THAT CAR WAS CLEARLY AFTER ME.

Did you see the license plate?

I'M SORRY. I DON'T REMEMBER ...

ぎゅ... (GYU (CLENCH))

.....

THEY'RE COMING DIRECTLY AFTER ME TO KILL ME.

BUT I'M LETTING ALL THE EVIDENCE GET AWAY ...!!

BOFUN (BOFF)

...DAMMIT, I'M SO PATHETIC.

...It couldn't be helped. Anyone would have a hard time thinking clearly if they were about to be run over.

ぎり (GIRI (GRIT))

I WON'T LET THAT HAPPEN ...!!

IF THIS KEEPS UP, I MIGHT BE FORCED TO "TRANSFER SCHOOLS."

AT THIS RATE, I'LL BE KILLED ...

... WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO DO OR LEARN ANY-THING.

...THAT I WAS JUST LIKE SATOSHI, WHO "TRANSFERRED SCHOOLS" LAST YEAR.

RENA WAS SAYING...

Transfer schools?

HOW DEEPLY IS SHE INVOLVED WITH THIS!?

WHO THE HELL IS RENA!?

SHE SPOKE AS IF I WAS HEADING FOR THE SAME FATE.

RENA KNOWS ABOUT SATOSHI'S LAST DAYS.

PIN-POOON (DING-DOOONG)

SOME-ONE'S HERE... A GUEST?

HA.. (GASP.)

DING-DOOONG

PIN-PO-O-O-N (DING-DOONG)

EXCUSE ME. PLEASE WAIT A MINUTE.

WHO ON EARTH WOULD BE VISITING AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT?

PIN-PO-O-O-N

...WOULDN'T YOU GIVE UP AND GO HOME?

TON (STOMP)

TON

NORMALLY, IF YOU RING THE BELL THIS MUCH AND NOBODY COMES TO THE DOOR...

PIN-PO-O-O-O

GOOD EVENING... KEIICHI-KUN.

...ANY-WAY, DEAL WITH HER CALMLY ...

YO... ARE YOU ALONE, RENA ...?

IS IT A COINCIDENCE THAT RENA'S HERE RIGHT NOW...?

JUST AS I WAS ABOUT TO ASK ABOUT HER.

WHAT DID YOU COME HERE FOR ...?

MION'S NOT WITH HER TODAY.

... YES.

WILL YOU UNDO THE CHAIN?

WILL YOU?

OPEN THE DOOR, KEIICHI-KUN. I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU.

KACHA (CLACK)

LIKE I CAN LET MY GUARD DOWN LIKE THAT...!

SHE WANTS ME...TO UNDO THE CHAIN?

WE ALWAYS KEEP THE CHAIN UP AT NIGHT. ...DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

YOU WON'T OPEN THE DOOR FOR ME? ...YOU WON'T?

DAMMIT, WHAT IS SHE AFTER ...?

...IF YOU WANT SOMETHING, CAN WE DEAL WITH IT RIGHT HERE?

GO AWAY ALREADY... WHAT DID YOU COME HERE FOR...?

OH...

...NO. ...NOT YET.

EH?

HAVE YOU EATEN DINNER?

...UM, KEIICHI-KUN!

PAAA (BRIGHTEN)

HAU COMO

AH-HA-HA! OH GOOD!

LOOK AT THIS! I BROUGHT SOME SIDE DISHES!

YOU WENT TO ALL THAT TROU-BLE?

Y-

I DID!

YUP. I PACKED LOTS OF YOUR FA-VORITES, KEIICHI-KUN.

IF YOU LET ME USE YOUR KITCHEN, I CAN WARM THEM UP RIGHT AWAY.

I BROUGHT MISO SOUP AND RICE TOO.

RENA BROUGHT ME FOOD OUT OF GOOD WILL, AND I'M GONNA TURN HER AWAY...!?

I CAN'T SENSE ANY HOS-TILITY FROM RENA RIGHT NOW.

YOU'RE TRYING TO KILL ME, AREN'T YOU?

WHY WOULD YOU PACK A MEAL FOR ME...?

ZUKIN (STING)

スキ…!

HA (GASP)

は…

...'COS MY PARENTS AREN'T HERE.

...BUT HUH?

DOKUN

DOKUN BADUM

...DID SHE MAKE THE FOOD OUT OF GOOD WILL?

WHY JUST TODAY?

DON'T TELL ME YOU...

ZOMA CHILD

RENA ...!

...I KNEW THAT I WAS HOME...

...ALONE...?

S-SO WILL YOU JUST GO ON HOME?

I... I HAVE SOME DINNER HERE TONIGHT.

THERE'S NO WAY RENA COULD KNOW THAT!!

THAT'S RIDICULOUS.

CCLEAR

!!

...?

キョト

KYOTO (BLINK)

.....

I- I'M NOT LYING!

MY MOM REALLY IS IN THE KITCHEN RIGHT NOW...

WHY ARE YOU LYING?

DID YOU MAKE DINNER BY YOURSELF?

KEIICHI-KUN...

AND A LOT OF IT.

N-NO, MOM'S MAKING IT RIGHT NOW.

WHY ARE YOU...

...LYING?

R-RENA REALLY DOES...

...KNOW THAT I'M THE ONLY ONE HERE.

HOW DID SHE FIND OUT?

I DIDN'T TELL ANY-ONE!!

ZA SCUFF

HEY, KEIICHI-KUN.

BIKU (FLINCH)

Eh?!

INSTANT RAMEN, RIGHT?

THAT'S STUPID! THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN KNOW THAT...

...IS HAVING FOR DINNER TONIGHT.

RENA'S GOING TO GUESS WHAT THE LYING KEIICHI-KUN...

EE... GUH...

I'M RIGHT, AREN'T I?

INSTANT RAMEN IS A STANDARD DISH FOR A MAN WHO CAN'T DO HOUSEWORK. IT'S EASY TO GUESS.

THINK OF IT THAT WAY! THEN EVERY-THING MAKES SENSE.

CUP: GINGER PORK FLAVOR

GINGER PORK FLAVORED RAMEN.

DO YOU LIKE IT?

WAS SHE KEEPING WATCH OVER MY HOUSE OR SOME-THING...?

SO RENA CAME TO TRICK ME INTO TELLING THE TRUTH.

WHAT... DID YOU JUST SAY...?

→GASP←

GINGER PORK FLAVOR.

YOU BOUGHT IT IN BULK AT SEVENS MART, DIDN'T YOU?

BAN (BAN)

HOW DO YOU KNOW? WHY DO YOU KNOW!!?

WHY DO YOU KNOW EVERY-THING I'M DOING, RENA!?

H-

TAKU SUKE

GAK

HOW... DO YOU KNOW THAT...?

... WELL ...

AN-SWER ME ...!!

AN-SWER ME ...

...I WAS BEHIND YOU THE WHOLE TIME.

EH HEH HEH HEH HEH ...

WH- WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ...?

SO RENA...

I'VE BEEN RIGHT BEHIND YOU THIS WHOLE TIME, KEIICHI-KUN.

AS YOU CHOSE DIFFERENT KINDS OF RAMEN...

...WATCHED FROM BEHIND YOU ALL THE WHILE, KEIICHI-KUN.

トーン

KNOCK

OPEN THE DOOR.

LET ME IN, KEIICHI-KUN...?

KNOCK

KNOCK

KNOCK

...TO GO HOME!!

BA (WHACK)

I-I'M TELLING YOU...

KYAH!!

GORYU (CRUNCH)

EEP...

IT HURTS...

IT HURTS.

AH...!!

...THAT HURTS

-UNGH

YOU'RE SO MEAN, KENCHI-NUH.

OPEN THIS DOOR...?

GATA (RATTLE)

TH'A...

GATA TH'A

TH'A GATA TH'A

AH...

G...
G-G-
G—

GATA

GATA

KEIICHI-KUN, OPEN THE DOOR.

GATATA (CLACK)

GATA

GATA

GATATAN (CLATTER)

OPEN IT... COME ON, OPEN IT...

GO HOME!!

GICHI (SQUICH)

KYAH!!

GICHI

GICHI

GO HOOOOOME!!

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

GO HOME!!

GO HOME!

GATA (RATTLE)

IT HURTS... IT HURTS, KITICHI-KUN...

IT REALLY HURTS.

IT...IT HURTS.

IF MY PRACTICAL JOKES WENT TOO FAR, THEN I APOLOGIZE...

BAN (BAM)

DOTA (THUD)

ハァ…

YORO (WOBBLE)

ヨロ…

IF REIKA DID SOMETHING WRONG, SHE'S SORRY

OPEN UP... OPEN THIS DOOR.

ZU (SLIDE)

ズ

ズズ…

DON (POUND)

ドン…

KEIICHI-KUN.

BIKU (TWITCH)

ビク

I-I'M SAVED ...!?

HAA

HAA (HUFF)

GACHA (RATTLE)

ガチャ

AH ...

AHH ...

I'M SORRY.
I'M SORRY.
I'M SORRY.
I'M SORRY.
I'M SORRY.
I'M SORRY.
I'M SORRY.
I'M SORRY.
GACHI
GACHI
GACHI (KACHINK)

A NORMAL PERSON COULDN'T DO THAT ...!!
HOW COULD SHE KNOW THAT MY PARENTS AREN'T HERE AND WHAT FLAVOR OF RAMEN I'M EATING?
I'M SORRY.
I'M SORRY.
I'M SORRY.
DA DASHU~

WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO HER?
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON WITH RENA?
I'M SORRY.
I'M SORRY.
I'M SORRY.

...THAT'S JUST SILLY!!

DEMONS OR A CURSE OR SOMETHING INFESTING THIS VILLAGE...

...USED TO BE FEARED AS THE "VILLAGE WHERE DEMONS LIVE."

HINAMI-ZAWA...

HE'LL REJECT THE IDEA OF OYASHIRO-SAMA'S CURSE.

IF I ASK OOISHI-SAN, HE'LL PROVE THAT RENA'S HUMAN.

YES.

About Rena Ryugu-san?

GU (CLENCH)

OOISHI-SAN... PLEASE TELL ME ABOUT RENA.

THERE'S NO WAY SHE'S POS-SESSED BY "SOME-THING" NOT HUMAN!!

...WHY? IS SOMETHING WRONG?

Hmm... I don't mind telling you, but...

Rena Ryugu... Her real name is Reina Ryugu.

Rena would appear to be a nick-name.

PO (DRIP)

PO...

Y-YES, SIR...

THIS IS UNUSUALLY EVASIVE FOR OOISHI-SAN...

...No, I only ask that you don't tell anyone else.

RENA ISN'T HER REAL NAME?

So it would seem...I don't know why she doesn't use her real name.

When she got to elementary school, she moved to Ibaraki.

She committed a violent crime at her school in Ibaraki a year ago.

THIS IS THE FIRST I'VE HEARD ABOUT THIS.

...But Rena-san originally came from Hinami-zawa.

SHE WENT AROUND BREAKING ALL THE WINDOWS IN HER SCHOOL, RIGHT?

No... This is a different case.

She assaulted three male students ..

..with a metal bat.

WHAT DID YOU SAY!?

WH-

Well... I don't know the details.

EH?

Two of them got away with just bruises.

But one of them was hurt badly enough to have lasting effects in one eye.

THAT'S TERRIBLE... WHY ON EARTH ...?

Neither the school nor the victims pressed charges.

BUT ISN'T THAT A CASE OF ASSAULT? WOULDN'T THE POLICE GET IN-VOLVED ...?

They kept their mouths shut, as if they were afraid of something.

EH...? AFRAID ...?

I met directly with the victims.

But even now none of them will say much.

...They're scared even now...

...as if...

...they're afraid of a curse.

...But right before the violent incident...

...I hear that Rena-san was normally a kind, girlish student.

WH-WHAT ARE YOU SAY-ING?

A-A CURSE !?

...as if she was possessed by some-thing.

...she underwent a drastic transfor-mation.

SH-SHE CHANGED DRASTI-CALLY!?

!!

...BUT ...

I'VE SEEN HER DO THAT LOTS OF TIMES MYSELF.

ISN'T IT JUST THAT THERE WAS SOME MENTAL ABNORMALITY OR SOME-THING ...?

...THAT CAN'T BE THE WORK OF SOMETHING INHUMAN. IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE.

DOKUN

IT'S OYASHIRO-SAMA!!

ガラーン!

I was able to learn a little bit about that conversa-tion...

...After the in-cident, Rena Ryugu ...

...WILL BE FOLLOWED BY O'MSHIRO-SAMA WITHOUT FAIL.

THOSE WHO ABANDON HINAMI-ZAWA...

... underwent psychiatric counseling.

BACKGROUND: I DIDN'T WANT TO MOVE, BUT BECAUSE OF MY MOTHER AND FATHER'S WORK WE MOVED TO IBARAKI. THE WHOLE TIME I WAS IN IBARAKI, I ALWAYS THOUGHT OF HINAMIZAWA...

私は引っ越したくなかったのにお父さんとお母さんのお仕方

I WANT TO GO BACK TO HINAMI-ZAWA...

NO, I HAVE TO GO BACK.

BACKGROUND: BUT OYASHIRO-SAMA DIDN'T FORGIVE ME. I WANTED TO GO BACK.

でもオヤシロさまは許してくれなかった

REALLY, I SHOULD HAVE RETURNED SOONER.

帰りたかった

BUT... IT'S TOO LATE...

OYASHIRO-SAMA HAS ARRIVED.

...that it was as if she really had been possessed by something...

The nurse who witnessed her like that told me...

ZAAA (SSHHH)

I believe that this series of mysterious deaths...

...is a crime committed by the village with the Sonozaki family at the heart of it.

...Say, Maebara-san.

NO...

...I FEEL UNEASY.

BUT SOME-TIMES...

I wonder if Oyashiro-sama's Curse really does exist...

DOOOOON (BOOOOOM)

BUT... NO...

I THOUGHT IF ANYONE WOULD REJECT THE IDEA OF THE CURSE, IT WOULD BE OOISHI-SAN.

...THEN WHAT SHOULD I DO...?

IF EVEN YOU ACKNOWL-EDGE IT...

ZAAAAAA

ZAAA (SSSHHHHH)

THERE'S SOMETHING IN FRONT OF THE HOUSE?

WHAT'S THAT?

...COLD...

...NN?

IT'S REALLY COMING DOWN...

RENA
...!?

IT'S POURING. WHAT IS SHE DOING OUT THERE?

WHAT... IS SHE DOING? THAT RENA.

...Hello? Maebara-san?

Can you hear me?

...RY.

ZAAAAA (SSSSHHHHH)

...SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

IS SHE SAYING SOME-THING TO ME?

WHAT'S SHE SAYING?

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

Maebara-san...

Hello? Hello?

ぼと…

"BOTO" (THUNK)

SMA SH.

EVEN WHEN SHE COULDN'T SEE ME...

...EVEN WITH IT RAINING THE ENTIRE TIME. APOLOGIZING... APOLOGIZING...

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

RENA'S BEEN APOLOGIZING THIS WHOLE TIME!!

WHAT YOU'RE DOING IS CRAZY!!

WHY WON'T YOU GO HOME?

I'M SORRY.

ARE YOU THE REAL RENA?

ARE YOU REALLY HUMAN?

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

If you can hear me, please say something!

Hello? Hello!!

I DON'T WANT TO ACKNOWL-EDGE A CURSE.

BUT RENA'S NOT ACTING LIKE HERSELF !!

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

DOES OYASHIRO-SAMA'S CURSE...

...REALLY EXIST IN HINAMIZAWA !?

DO YOU KNOW WHEREIN LIES THE SIN? IT WASN'T IN PARTAKING OF THE FRUIT OF THE TREE.

DO YOU KNOW WHEREIN LIES THE SIN? IT WASN'T IN LENDING AN EAR TO THE SERPENT'S ENTICEMENTS.

DO YOU STILL NOT KNOW WHEREIN LIES THE SIN? THEREIN LIES YOUR SIN.

Frederica Bernkastel

FINAL CHAPTER: WISH

SIGN R-L: TAKOYAKI; HOT DOGS

CHI (CHEEP) CHI CHI...
チチチ...

...IT'S FINALLY MORNING ...

...I'M DEATHLY AFRAID OF SLEEPING DEFENSE-LESSLY.

FEELING LIKE I NEVER KNOW WHEN I'LL BE ATTACKED ...

AND I DON'T KNOW IF MY ENEMY IS HUMAN OR A CURSE.

MY LIFE IS IN DANGER.

DID RENA GO HOME?

SO (PEER)

...I'M SCARED ...

I DON'T WANT TO SET FOOT OUTSIDE MY HOUSE ...

I MIGHT ...

カナカナカナ... KANA (CHIRP) KANA KANA...

...GET KILLED TODAY...

KANA KANA KANA カナカナカナ...

WERE YOU KILLED AFTER ALL?

SATO-SHI...

WHAT WERE YOU KILLED FOR?

WHY? AND BY WHO?

I'LL GO TO SCHOOL.

BASA (FLAP)

はい…

IF THEY COME AFTER ME, THEN I'LL REVEAL THEIR IDENTITIES.

IF I DON'T IDENTIFY MY ENEMY, I'LL BE KILLED WITHOUT KNOWING ANYTHING.

EVEN IF I RUN, THIS FEAR WILL ONLY CONTINUE.

I'LL REVEAL THE TRUTH AND TELL OOISHI-SAN...!

STAY COOL, KEIICHI MAE-BARA.

SO THAT NO ONE WILL BE SUSPI-CIOUS OF ME CARRY-ING A BAT AROUND.

AND I'LL KEEP PRACTICING MY SWING TODAY.

BUN (SWING)

BUN

BUN

カナカナカナ…

KANA-KANA-KANA...

RENA...

AH.

...THAT RENA'S NOT "NORMAL."

...YESTERDAY, I CONFIRMED...

BUT MY CHEST DOESN'T HURT...

ON HER FINGERS ARE THE INJURIES SHE GOT LAST NIGHT.

YOOHOO, KEI-CHAN!

TO (SKIP) TO TO...

...MION...

I SEE YOU'RE RUNNING STRAIGHT FOR KOUSHI-EN AGAIN TODAY!

I DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE CUT OUT FOR THAT KINDA STUFF.

BLIN (SWING)

DID YOU ALWAYS LIKE BASE-BALL, KEI-CHAN?

I'VE GOT MY DOUBTS ABOUT HER TOO...I CAN'T LET MY GUARD DOWN.

FUU (HUFF)

I'M BUSY PRACTICING MY SWING. LEAVE ME ALONE.

YOU'RE JUST A WUSSY CITY BOY.

MU (GRR)

WHAT THE HECK ...?

IF YOU WANT TO SAY SOMETHING, SAY IT.

STOP IT.

PRAC-TICING YOUR SWING.

WHAT...? SHE WANTS TO PRETEND TO BE MY FRIEND AND LECTURES ME NOW?

THAT'S NOT YOUR BAT...

...AND THE SERIES OF MYSTERI-OUS DEATHS YOU'VE BEEN HIDING FROM ME.

I KNOW ALL ABOUT SATOSHI...

EH?

I KNOW WHOSE BAT THIS IS.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO VAGUE ABOUT THE BAT NOT BEING MINE.

YOU LYING BITCH.

IF ALL YOU'RE GONNA DO IS HIDE THINGS FROM ME...

...YOU'RE NO FRIEND OF MINE.

I HAVEN'T HIDDEN ANYTHING OR LIED TO YOU...

JUST A... HOLD IT, KEI-CHAN...

DON'T ASSUME I DON'T KNOW ANY-THING...

BUT THE TRUTH IS THERE WAS A BRUTAL MURDER, WASN'T THERE!?

YOU TOLD ME THERE WEREN'T ANY INCIDENTS AT THE DAM CONSTRUC-TION SITE.

TH-THAT WAS ...

SO WAS IT YOU!? OR WAS IT RENA !?

...YEAH, AND ABOUT THOSE OHAGI THE OTHER DAY?

THEY WERE SO GOOD, THEY MADE ME BLEED.

TH-THAT WAS 'COS I DIDN'T WANT TO SCARE YOU, KEI-CHAN.

IT WAS ...

...JUST A LITTLE PRANK...

I WAS THE ONE WHO DID THAT.

...MION, STOP WITH THE EXCUSES.

GU (CLENCH)

IT'S NOT LIKE PUTTING TABASCO IN OHAGI!!

WHA... WHAT ARE YOU SMILING FOR...? IF I'D SWALLOWED THAT NEEDLE, I'D HAVE DIED!

A

B

D

DOKLIN (BADUM)

...AS EASILY AS YOU DID SATOSHI ...!!

DON'T THINK YOU CAN ERASE ME...

DON (WHAM)

I KNOW ALL ABOUT THE DEATHS AND THAT YOU GUYS ARE SUSPECTS.

AND THAT THE POLICE HAVE TAKEN CARE OF YOU SINCE THE ANTI-DAM MOVEMENT.

H-HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?

SHUT UP.

.....

PORO (DRIP)

...NO...

...TALK TO ME AGAIN.

DON'T EVER ...

ALL I DID... WAS TELL THE TRUTH...

...GH...

HIC

HIC

HIC

KEI-CHA...

HIC

YOU'RE TERRI-BLE...

HIC

HEH-HEH-HEH... I SEE...

...WHO TOLD YOU EVERY-THING, KEI-CHAN...?

WAS IT THAT OOISHI...

EH...?

PITA (STOP)

HE'S FORGOTTEN THAT HE OWES US FOR SPARING HIM BECAUSE HE'S RETIRING THIS YEAR...!!

WHAT IS THIS...? THIS VOICE...

THAT OLD GEEZER...

I WILL... DEFINITELY KILL HIM ...!

THEY REALLY ARE BEHIND THE DEATHS...?

A VOICE FILLED WITH HOMICIDAL MALICE...

AFTER SCHOOL—

I WENT HOME WITHOUT TALKING TO ANYONE AFTER THAT...

WILL ANYONE OR ANYTHING COME AFTER ME TODAY?

MIIIN MIN MIN MIN...

THE CICADAS SURE ARE NOISY...

JIJI (BZ BZ)

MIIIN CHUMO MIN MIN MIN

MIIIN MIN MIN MIN

HEY, ME TOO... TELL ME THE TRUTH TOO...

WERE THE CICADAS WITNESS TO ALL OF THE INCI-DENTS?

...WHAT ON EARTH KILLED YOU TWO...?

TOMI-TAKE-SAN, SATO-SHI...

SHIN (SILENCE)

THE CICADAS STOPPED ...?

EH ...?

STEP

I WON'T LOSE.

...IF YOU'RE GONNA COME, THEN COME.

STEP

BA (TURN)

I'LL TAKE THIS CHANCE TO REVEAL YOUR TRUE IDENTITY!!

STEP

...SOME-BODY'S COMING...

KEIICHI-KUN.

I FOUND YOU.

WHA-

WHAT'S WITH THAT RIDICULOUSLY HUGE CLEAVER ...?

R-RENA!! WHAT DO YOU WANT!?

WHY, I TAKE THE SAME WAY HOME AS YOU, KEIICHI-KUN.

TH-THEN WHAT'S WITH THE CLEAVER!?

I-I'M PRACTICING MY SWING.

THEN RENA IS LOOKING FOR TREASURE.

WHAT'S WITH THAT BAT YOU HAVE, KEIICHI-KUN?

I NEED THIS TO GET IT OUT.

AT THE DAM SITE. I FOUND SOMETHING ADOWABLE AGAIN.

NIKO (GRIN)

I'M SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE THAT...?

I...

YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT, WOULD YOU?

KAKUN (JERK)

AHA-HA...NO.

AH

HA

HA

HA

HA

YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT, DO YOU?

AH-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA !!!

EEP ...

ZOKUUU (CHILL)

AH-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA !!!!!!

HA

HA

AH HA HA HA HA HA!!!

WAIT FOR ME, KEIICHI-KUN.

R-RENA'S EVEN MORE MENTAL TODAY!

AAH!

AAH!

UAAH!!

I CAN'T NOT FOLLOW YOU.

D-DON'T FOLLOW ME!!

SHE WON'T COME AFTER ME THEN, RIGHT!?

THEN I'LL GO A DIF-FERENT WAY!!

ZAH (CRUNCH)

RENA'S HOUSE IS THIS WAY TOO. AHA-HA-HA-HA!!

KUH!

あはは
AHA
HA
HA
HA
JUST A...
YOU'RE KIDDING ME, RIGHT!?
WH-WH-WHY ARE YOU FOLLOWING ME!?
Y-YOUR HOUSE ISN'T THIS WAY, RENA!!
AH HA HA HA HA HA !!!!
LIAR!!
I-I DON'T HAVE ANY-THING TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT!
DON'T YOU WANT TO TALK TO RENA, KEIICHI-KUN?
'COS I WANT TO TALK TO YOU, KEIICHI-KUN.
DON'T YOU?

YOU'RE SCARED, AREN'T YOU, KEIICHI-KUN?

ZA-
(CRUNCH)

I KNOW. I DO.

RENA CAN TELL.

BUT RENA COULDN'T BE THERE FOR HIM TO TALK TO.

SATOSHI-KUN WAS WORRIED TOO.

WH-WHAT IS SHE TALKING ABOUT?

HAA

HAA

WHAT IS RENA TRYING TO DO!?

THIS TIME, I CAN TALK TO YOU.

RENA'S THE ONLY ONE YOU CAN TALK TO.

HAA

HAA

ガッ

IF HE HAD BEEN ABLE TO TALK TO RENA ...

...SATOSHI-KUN MIGHT NOT HAVE HAD TO TRANSFER SCHOOLS.

I REALLY REGRETTED IT.

ZA

ガッ

THAT'S WHY RENA WILL HELP YOU, KEIICHI-KUN.

I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANYONE TRANSFER SCHOOLS AGAIN.

...WHY DO YOU NEED A CLEAVER!?

ZEE

ZEE (GASP)

IF YOU'RE TRYING TO HELP ME...

GAKUN (THOONK)

LIKE I'LL ACCEPT THE SAME FATE AS SATOSHI !!

LIKE I'D LET HER MAKE ME TRANSFER SCHOOLS.

BUT IF SHE CATCHES ME, I'M DONE FOR. THAT'S THE ONE THING I DO KNOW.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT RENA'S SAYING ANYMORE.

PECHA (WHAP)

GAKU (SHAKE)

AT A TIME LIKE THIS ...!!

...DAMMIT!

GAKU

IT'S NOT LIKE YOU TO BE AFRAID, KEIICHI-KUN.

WHAT ARE YOU SO SCARED OF?

TELL ME! WHAT HAPPENED TO SATO-SHI!?

D-DID YOU CORNER SATOSHI LIKE THIS TOO!?

WHO KILLED TOMI-TAKE-SAN!?

WHO ERASED SATOSHI !?

...THEN I'LL SAY IT SO YOU DO UNDER-STAND!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, KENCHI-KUN.

...IS BEHIND THESE MYSTE-RIOUS DEATHS !?

WHO...

.....YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG, KEIICHI-KUN.

.....

OYA-SHIRO-SAMA DECIDES ALL.

THERE IS NO HUMAN CULPRIT.

♪ZAAA (BREEZE)

IT'S NOT ABOUT BELIEVING OR NOT BELIEVING.

OYA-SHIRO-SAMA EXISTS.

O-OYASHIRO-SAMA'S CURSE IS JUST A MYTH...

YOU BELIEVE IN IT, RENA?

OYA-SHIRO-SAMA DOES EXIST.

TH-THERE'S NO WAY I CAN ACCEPT THAT...

FOR A VERY LONG TIME?

HAVEN'T YOU BEEN APOLO-GIZED TO, KEIICHI-KUN?

...UNTIL FORGIVEN.

OYA-SHIRO-SAMA WILL FOLLOW YOU TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH...

DOES SHE MEAN WHAT I SENSED BACK THEN ...?

NO... THAT HAS TO HAVE BEEN MY IMAGINA-TION.

IT'S OKAY. DON'T WORRY.

I CAN'T BE CURSED BY OYASHIRO-SAMA... THERE'S NO WAY...

OKAY ?

DON'T BE AFRAID.

RENA WILL HELP YOU.

I'LL HELP YOU!

AH HA HA HA HA HA

...SHE'S GONNA KILL ME!!

SHE...

HA

DON (WHAM)

KORON (ROLL)

KYA!!

HURRY!!

DA (DASH)

FF!!!

...BEFORE RENA GETS UP.

HURRY.

GUH (CLENCH)

AH...

I-

I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY...

I HAVE TO HURRY AND ESCAPE TO SOMEWHERE SAFE.

はあ HAA (HUFF)

はあ HAA

IF RENA CATCHES UP TO ME THIS TIME, I'M DEAD.

HH!.. ZA (CRUNCH)

PEOPLE!!

AH...

...IT DOESN'T DO ME ANY GOOD!!

DAMMIT, EVEN WITH THE BAT...

HAA

HAA

HAA

P-PLEASE HELP M—

ほ... HO (WHEW)

OH GOOD... NOW I CAN GET AWAY FROM RENA.

SOME-THING'S NOT RIGHT...

...WHAT'S WITH THESE GUYS?

HH!..

ZA

DA

...?

DOL (WHAAAN)

WAI— ARE YOU FOR REAL...?

KAHA ...!

I DON'T WANT IT TO END HERE...

DAMMIT... I STILL DON'T KNOW ANYTHING.

SO ALL THE VILLAGERS REALLY ARE IN ON IT ...?

...

カナカナカナ…

KANA (CHIRP) KANA KANA

カナカナカナ…

KANA KANA KANA…

…UNGH…

…I'M SURE RENA WAS CHASING ME…

…KEIICHI-KUN…

…KEIICHI-KUN, ARE YOU AWAKE…?

I'M…

…IN MY ROOM…?

RENA!!

WHAT IS SHE DOING HERE!?

BIKUU (JUMP)

ビクッ!

...GH ...!!

WAH... YOU SHOULDN'T JUMP UP LIKE THAT...

I THINK YOU SHOULD LIE DOWN FOR A WHILE.

ZU (DROP)

ズ!

...THE RENA WHO TRIED TO KILL ME HELPED ME...?

I CALLED A DOCTOR TOO, JUST IN CASE.

...IS SHE BACK TO HER OLD SELF...?

RIGHT NOW, RENA...IS SERIOUSLY WORRIED ABOUT ME.

WHY...? IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE...

A-ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? DO YOU HURT ANY-WHERE?

YOOHOO, KEI-CHAN!

TWO MEN ATTACKED ME...

GARA (RATTLE)

...RENA, WHAT... THE HECK HAP-PENED?

ANYWAY... I'LL TRY NOT TO EXCITE HER TOO MUCH...

YO! I HEAR YOU PASSED OUT?

M-MION !?

YOU'RE ALIVE.

...OH GOOD.

NII (CLEER)

I GOT A CALL FROM RENA.

WHY... WHAT'S MION DOING HERE ...?

DID YOU CALL THE DIREC-TOR?

HEY, RENA.

THEY'RE... NOT PLOT-TING SOME-THING, ARE THEY...?

ZO (CHILL...)

...DIREC-TOR?

YES. HE SAID HE'D BE HERE RIGHT AWAY.

...NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT ...

...HUH?

OR THE DIRECTOR OF A CON-STRUCTION SITE.

AHA-HA-HA. YOU DON'T KNOW, KEI-CHAN?

WHEN WE SAY DIRECTOR, WE MEAN LIKE IN THE MOVIES.

THE FIRST VICTIM IN THE SERIES OF MYSTERIOUS DEATHS?

DIRECTOR OF A CONSTRUCTION SITE...?

... WAIT, DON'T TELL ME...

THAT'S CRAZY... DIDN'T HE DIE FIVE YEARS AGO...?

HUH...

THEY SAY THEY CALLED HIM!?

THE DIRECTOR OF THE DAM PROJECT WHO WAS KILLED AND DISMEMBERED?

ALIVE ...!?

THE VICTIM IS ACTUALLY ...

WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH THIS VILLAGE !?

AND NOW, TO THINK THE "DIRECTOR" IS ALIVE?

SHE INSISTED THAT OYASHIRO-SAMA EXISTS.

RENA ATTACKED ME IN THE OPEN.

GASHI... (GRAB...)

YOU'RE HURT, KEIICHI-KUN.

YOU SHOULDN'T BE UP.

I GUESS WE'LL GET THIS OUT OF THE WAY BEFORE THE DIRECTOR GETS HERE.

...RIGHT.

HEY, MII-CHAN.

WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING, RENA!?

IT'S YOUR PENALTY GAME!

PEN-ALTY GAME!

GET...WHAT OUT OF THE WAY...?

AND YOU FORGOT TO DO IT.

YOUR HOME-WORK WAS TO GUESS WHICH OHAGI RENA MADE.

AHA-HA-HA-HA!!

BUT WHY DO WE HAVE TO DO THE PENALTY GAME NOW!?

'COS YOU SHOULDN'T RESIST THE PENALTY GAME.

...NO RESISTING. CLUB RULE NUMBER... OH, IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT NUMBER.

ALL RIGHT, THEN YOU GET THE PENALTY GAME.

KOUCHI-KUN GAVE ME ROBOT AND HOME-WORK.

...THERE WAS SOME-THING LIKE THAT.

WE HAVE TO FINISH THIS BEFORE THE DIRECTOR GETS HERE.

ポ!

DON'T MOVE, OKAY? THIS IS A PENALTY GAME.

WHY WOULD MION HAVE A SYRINGE ...?

A SY-RINGE ?

...HEH HEH HEH!

IT'S OKAY. THIS WON'T HURT A BIT.

STOP AVOIDING QUES-TIONS AND TRYING TO CONFUSE ME!!

I HAVE NO IDEA !!

IT WON'T DO ANY GOOD TO ACT LIKE YOU DON'T KNOW NOW.

"WHAT" ...? WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

WH-WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TRY-ING TO PULL!?

WE'LL HAVE YOU MEET THE SAME FATE AS TOMITAKE-SAN.

KUN'S
Eh
Eh?

SAN PASSED AWAY.
BUT HE HAS A VAGUE IDEA!
HIT
HIT
HIT

PERHAPS HE WAS GIVEN SOME KIND OF DRUG...

WHY HE CLAWED OUT HIS THROAT IS UNKNOWN.

...I'LL END UP TEARING OUT MY OWN THROAT!?

NO WAY. SO IF I TAKE THAT SHOT...

...DRUG TRACES IN TOMITAKE-SAN'S BODY!!

TH-THE POLICE DIDN'T SAY THEY FOUND ANY...

WELL

JUST GIVE IN.

GETE
GETE (CACKLE)
GETE
GETE
GETE
GETE
GETE
GETE
GETE
UNAAA

THE HIGURASHI ARE CRYING...

カナカナカナ...
KANA (CHIRP) KANA KANA

THAT WAS A REALLY BAD DREAM...

NN

BRIGHT... IS IT SUNSET?

DREAM?

KANA KANA KANA...
カナカナカナ...

KANA KANA KANA...
カナカナカナ...

カナカナカナ…
KANA KANA KANA…
カナカナカナ…
KANA KANA KANA…

I SEE...

EVERY-THING THAT HAPPENED TILL NOW— IT WAS ALL A DREAM.

I HAVE TO HELP HER UNEARTH THE KENTA-KUN DOLL.

RENA'S WAITING AT THE DAM CON-STRUCTION SITE.

THAT MUST BE IT... THERE'S NO WAY...

...RENA AND MION WOULD BE INVOLVED IN A MURDER.

BUT I HAVE TO GET UP AND GO...

THE HIGURASHI ARE CRYING.

I'M STILL A LITTLE SLEEPY.

KANA KANA KANA...
カナカナカナ…
KANA KANA KANA...
カナカナカナ…

WHA-

WHAT... IS THIS ...?

MION...

RENA ...

NO... THEY WERE KILLED ...?

THEY'RE BOTH DEAD...

WHAT IN THE WORLD...

WHY...?

RENA HELD ME DOWN, AND MION ALMOST GAVE ME THAT INJECTION.

THAT'S RIGHT. IT WASN'T A DREAM.

I-IT CAN'T BE. NO...

...I... DID THIS ...?

I DON'T REMEMBER ...

AND...

...DID THIS TO RENA AND MION ...?

I...WITH MY OWN HANDS...

KANA (CHIRP) KANA KANA...

カ+カ+カ+...

カ+カ+カ+...

KANA KANA KANA...

...EVERY DAY WAS A BLAST...

BUT AFTER I CAME TO HINAMIZAWA...

THERE WAS NOTHING FUN IN MY LIFE BEFORE I TRANSFERRED TO HINAMIZAWA.

IT WAS ALL SCHOOL AND CRAM SCHOOL. I DIDN'T HAVE ANY REAL FRIENDS.

YOUR HAND IS SO WARM, KEIICHI-KUN.

RENA WAS ALWAYS BY MY SIDE.

I'D LIKE TO MAKE KEIICHI MAEBARA-KUN A MEMBER OF OUR CLUB...

MION WAS BRIGHT AND CHEERFUL AND ALWAYS THOUGHT OF HER FRIENDS.

BUT... IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW THINGS TURNED OUT THIS WAY...

IF I HADN'T GOTTEN THEM, THEY WOULD'VE GOTTEN ME.

KILLED...

I...

I BEAT MY OWN FRIENDS TO DEATH...

WHAT HAPPENED UP TILL NOW... WHAT I DID... EVERY-THING...

...I'LL TELL OOISHI-SAN EVERY-THING...

ｶﾀｶﾀｶﾀ

KIKI (SCREECH)

...IS SOME-ONE HERE ...?

...THE SOUND OF A CAR ...?

AND THAT CAR... ...EH?

A LAB COAT...A DOCTOR?

AND A FEW VILLAG-ERS...

WHITE... A WHITE STATION WAGON ...!?

IT'S THAT CAR ...!?

DOKUN BADUM

THE ONE THAT TRIED TO RUN ME OVER.

DID YOU CALL THE DIRECTOR?

YES, HE SAID HE'D BE HERE RIGHT AWAY.

はっ..

HA... (GASP...)

...AT MY HOUSE NOW...?

WHY'S THAT CAR...

IF THEY GET ME... I'LL BE KILLED.

...THE DIRECTOR ...RENA'S ACCOM-PLICES ARE HERE ...

...I CAN'T AFFORD TO DIE YET...

IS MY LIFE THAT IMPORTANT ...?

SO THAT THEY CAN UNCOVER THE TRUTH BEHIND THESE MYSTERIOUS DEATHS.

I HAVE TO SURVIVE AND TELL EVERY-THING THAT'S HAPPENED TO THE POLICE.

...HEY, RENA, MION...

WHY... DO YOU WANT TO KILL ME SO BADLY?

...I HAD TO KILL RENA AND MION TO SURVIVE THIS LONG.

I CAN'T AFFORD TO BE KILLED HERE NOW...!

I'LL MAKE MY ESCAPE AND GET IN TOUCH WITH OOISHI-SAN.

AND IN CASE THE UNTHINKABLE HAPPENS... AND I GET CAUGHT ...

RENA AND MION ARE PART OF THE CONSPIRACY.

THERE ARE ALSO AT LEAST FOUR OR FIVE ADULTS. THEY OWN A WHITE STATION WAGON.

PLEASE INVESTIGATE THE VICTIM OF THE DISMEMBERMENT CASE AGAIN. HE IS STILL ALIVE.

TOMITAKE-SAN'S DEATH WAS CAUSED BY AN UNKNOWN DRUG. THIS SYRINGE IS EVIDENCE.

...I'LL WRITE DOWN EVERYTHING I'VE LEARNED IN THE NOTE I HID BEHIND THE CLOCK.

EVEN IF I'M KILLED, IT SHOULD BE A CLUE IN SOLVING THE CASE.

BIKU (JUMP)

THEY'RE HERE!!

DINGIDOONG

I JUST HAVE TO ATTACH THE SYRINGE ...

...THAT'S THE BEST I KNOW NOW.

...THIS ONE THING ...!!

KYU

AND FINALLY ...

KYU (SQUEAK)

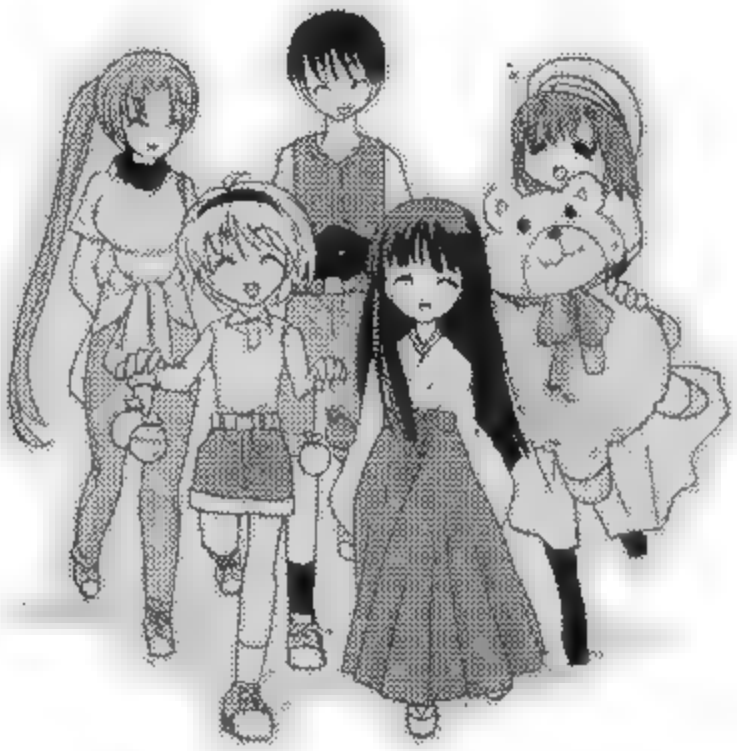
THIS... IS OUR LAST GOOD-BYE...

...RENA, MION.

...ALL RIGHT...

I... truly did...

...think of you all as my friends...



I WILL ESCAPE.

THERE HE IS! OUT BACK!!

I HAD TO KILL MY FRIENDS TO MAKE IT THIS FAR.

I'LL LIVE AND EXPOSE EVERY-THING.

I'LL EXPOSE THE IDENTITY...

...OF THE "SOME-THING" THAT'S DRIVEN ME TO THIS POINT.

PETA STEP!

...HUH?

DID I JUST HEAR THOSE FOOTSTEPS?

OOISHI-SAAAN.

YOU HAVE AN OUTSIDE CALL FROM A CIVILIAN.

OKONI-MIYA POLICE

O-Ooishi-san!? Th-this is Mae-bara!!

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING. THIS IS OOISHI.

WHERE ARE YOU NOW!!?

GU (CLENCH)

WHAT HAP-PENED!?

I'll go over there right away!!

HAA (HUFF)

HAA

AH... THAT IS...

Uhhh... Um... Ah... I...

!? MAE-BARA-SAN!?

-HACK-

-COUGH-

I think... it's no use...

HE'S ALREADY BEEN ATTACKED AND HURT!?

VOMITING... DON'T TELL ME IT'S BLOOD!?

THIS COUGH ISN'T NORMAL...

ERK..

ま…

O Ooishi-sa... -COUGH- -COUGH-

I...I... THOUGHT THAT IT WAS A HUMAN AT FIRST, TH...

-COUGH-

Maebara-san! Who's doing this!?

OOHH... OOHH...

HAA

HAA

HAA

BUT IT REALLY... -COUGH-

...THAT OYASHIRO-SAMA'S CURSE COULDN'T POSSIBLY BE REAL...

Are you all right!? Maebara-san!!

GEHO (HACK)

GOHO (COUGH)

OYASHIRO-SAMA IS HERE. RIGHT NOW.

I'd run and run, but something like a shadow would stay close behind me...

For a while now, I've thought [illegible]

...RIGHT BEHIND ME...

EVEN NOW... IT'S...

WHO'S BEHIND YOU!?

IT CAN'T BE...THE MURDERER IS RIGHT BEHIND MAEBARA-SAN!?

YOU ONLY HAVE TO TURN YOUR HEAD A LITTLE.

I KNOW YOU'RE SCARED.

PLEASE TELL ME!!

-COUGH-

-COUGH-

IF I TURN AROUND... I...I...

-COUGH-

I CAN'T TURN AROUND ...

-COUGH-

-COUGH-

BARI...

HA (GASP)

BARI (SCRATCH)

-COUGH-

BARI...

DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE...

MAEBARA-SAN...

BARI...

BARI.

BARI

BARI.

YOU'RE NOT CLAWING AT YOUR THROAT, ARE YOU...?

GORO DRIP!

HELLO? MAEBARA-SAN!?

!?

GATA SLATTER

ガタッ

ASHAN CRASH

アシャー

BARI

Please answer me!!

Hello? Hello!!

COUGH

COUGH

BARI

BARI (SCRATCH)

Hello !?

COUGH

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'm sorry.

I'm sorry.

I'm sorry.

I'm sorry.

I'm sorry.

BU (CLICK)

1983, JUNE. THE SMALL VILLAGE HINAMIZAWA, IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SHISHIBONE, IN A CERTAIN PREFECTURE.

FEMALE STUDENTS WERE MURDERED.

THE SUSPECT IS KEIICHI MAEBARA (AGE 1X).

HE CALLED TWO OF HIS CLASSMATES (MION SONOZAKI, REINA RYUGU) TO HIS HOUSE...

...AND BEAT THEM TO DEATH WITH A METAL BAT.

FURTHERMORE, AWAY FROM THE SCENE OF THE CRIME...

...THERE WERE FOUND SIGNS THAT THE ENTRANCE, THE LIVING ROOM, AND THE KITCHEN OF HIS HOUSE HAD BEEN RANSACKED.

HIS ROOM WAS PAINTED WITH A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF BLOOD SPLATTERED FROM THE VICTIMS.

IN THE ENTRANCE, THERE WERE SIGNS OF HEAVY BLOWS MADE TO THE SHOE SHELF AND WALLS.

THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE SUSPECT, MAEBARA, PERFORMED ACTS OF VIOLENCE IN ORDER TO THREATEN THE VICTIMS.

IN THE LIVING ROOM, THE RUG WAS PULLED UP AND THROWN ASIDE.

THE REASON FOR THAT IS UNKNOWN.

IT HAS BEEN ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE WERE SIGNS OF A STRUGGLE WITH THE VICTIMS.

...AND ITS CONTENTS WERE SCATTERED ACROSS THE FLOOR.

IN THE KITCHEN, THE TRASH BAG WAS SHREDDED ...

THE MEANING OF THAT IS UNKNOWN.

IT IS THOUGHT THAT HE PULLED OUT THE TRASH AND HIT IT WITH HIS PALM FOR SOME REASON.

HANDPRINTS BELIEVED TO BELONG TO THE SUSPECT WERE DISCOVERED AS WELL.

TRASH WAS STREWN ABOUT THE AREA...

ITS MEANING IS UN-KNOWN.

NOTE: D D YOU SEE A NEEDLE?

...READ "DID YOU SEE A NEEDLE?"

FURTHER-MORE, A NOTE POSTED ON THE REFRIG-ERATOR...

...BUT WHEN HE WAS FOUND, HE WAS UNCONSCIOUS AND IN CRITICAL CONDITION. HE DIED 24 HOURS LATER.

THE SUSPECT FLED THE SCENE OF THE CRIME...

IT IS SUSPECTED THAT SOME KIND OF DRUG IS BEHIND THE STRANGE CAUSE OF DEATH.

BUT AS IN THE CASE OF MR. TOMITAKE, NO TRACES OF DRUGS WERE FOUND.

INVESTIGATIONS ARE BEING MADE INTO POSSIBLE LINKS BETWEEN THE INCIDENTS.

THE PECULIAR MANNER OF HIS DEATH WAS SIMILAR TO THAT OF ONE MR. TOMITAKE WHO WAS DISCOVERED LAST WEEK.

BUT SEVERAL QUESTIONS REMAIN.

AFTERWARD, A NOTE IN THE SUSPECT'S HANDWRITING WAS FOUND IN HIS ROOM.

BUT THERE IS A POSSIBILITY ...

...THAT SOMEONE TORE OUT SEVERAL OF THE LINES FROM THE MIDDLE.

THE NOTE WAS ORIGINALLY WRITTEN ON A PAGE OF B5 PAPER.

THE FIRST PERSON TO DISCOVER THE NOTE WAS ONE MR CLAUDE OOISHI, WHO IS RUMORED TO HAVE CONNECTIONS TO THE CASE.

HE DENIES DAMAGING THE NOTE...

...THERE IS SPECULATION THAT SOMETHING ELSE WAS ATTACHED WITH THE NOTE.

FURTHERMORE, BASED ON THE PIECES OF TAPE STUCK TO THE BACK OF THE CLOCK...

THE CASE REMAINS UNSOLVED.

THE TRUTH IS UNKNOWN, AND NO PROGRESS IS BEING MADE.

THE CONTENTS OF THE NOTE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NEWSPAPER POOR VILLAGE MIKAMI ZAWA / CLASSMATE MURDER

RENA AND MION ARE PART OF THE CONSPIRACY.

THERE ARE AT LEAST FOUR OR FIVE OTHER ADULTS. THEY OWN A WHITE STATION WAGON.

(THE ABOVE IS FROM THE FIRST PAGE. THE NEXT PART WAS TORN OUT DIRECTLY HORIZONTALLY.)

(THE FOLLOWING IS FROM THE SECOND PAGE.
THE PART ABOVE IT WAS TORN OUT DIRECTLY HORIZONTALLY.)

HIC

HIC

I DON'T KNOW HOW THINGS TURNED OUT THIS WAY.

IF YOU'RE READING THIS,
I AM PROBABLY ALREADY DEAD.

KEIICHI-SAN...

EKKU (HIC)

AND RENA-SAN AND MION-SAN...

FUE (HIC)

HIKKU (HIC)

...THERE MIGHT BE A DIFFERENCE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THERE'S A BODY.

We'll be able to see Keiichi and the others again...

It's okay, Satoko ...

BUT TO YOU WHO READ THIS...

...PLEASE EXPOSE THE TRUTH.

THAT IS MY ONLY WISH.

—KEIICHI MAEBARA

HIGURASHI WHEN THEY CRY ABDUCTED BY DEMONS ARC ❷ END

TRANSLATION NOTES

Page 14

Onigafuchi

Literally means "pit of demons"; a fitting name for a village infested with them.

Page 28

Ohagi

Also known as "*botamochi*" or "*hagi no mochi*," *ohagi* is a Japanese treat made from sweet rice packed in a ball and coated with azuki red bean paste.

Page 85

Koushien

Koushien is a district in Hyogo Prefecture, known for holding the national high school baseball tournament.

Page 230

B5 paper

This is a Japanese category of paper size. B5 paper is a little bigger than seven by ten inches.

Higurashi
WHEN THEY CRY

ABDUCTED BY DEMONS ARC

FIN

07th Expansion presents Welcome to Hinamizawa
"When They Cry"

ABOUT THE "ABDUCTED BY DEMONS ARC" THE ONE AND ONLY KEY

ORIGINAL STORY, SUPERVISOR: RYUKISHI 07

THE "ABDUCTED BY DEMONS ARC" IS THE FIRST STORY IN *HIGURASHI WHEN THEY CRY* AND DEPICTS THE THEMES I WANT TO DEPICT IN THE OVERALL STORY MOST SIMPLY. NOW, IF I WERE TO GO EVEN FURTHER, PERHAPS I COULD SAY THAT THIS "ABDUCTED BY DEMONS ARC" IS *HIGURASHI WHEN THEY CRY*.

TO GIVE A CRYPTIC EXPLANATION, THERE IS ONLY ONE KEY HIDDEN IN THE "ABDUCTED BY DEMONS ARC." THIS IS AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT KEY, AND IF YOU CAN FIND IT, THEN THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO DELVE DEEP NOT ONLY INTO THE "ABDUCTED BY DEMONS ARC," BUT ALSO INTO THE "COTTON DRIFTING ARC" AND THE "CURSE KILLING ARC." BUT BECAUSE IT IS SUCH AN IMPORTANT KEY, IN ORDER TO HIDE IT, THERE ARE A LARGE NUMBER OF FAKE KEYS SCATTERED THROUGHOUT.

TO THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE TOUCHING ON THE WORLD OF *HIGURASHI* FOR THE FIRST TIME, I HOPE THAT YOU WILL ENJOY DROWNING IN THE SEA OF KEYS.

AND...TO THOSE OF YOU WHO ALREADY KNOW THE "KAI," THE "SOLUTION," TO THIS STORY, I HOPE YOU WILL WARMLY WATCH OVER THOSE WHO ARE ENJOYING DROWNING. BECAUSE, IN ANY EVENT, THE ONES ENJOYING THIS WORLD THE MOST ARE NONE OTHER THAN THE ONES STRUGGLING TO KEEP THEIR HEADS ABOVE WATER.

THANK YOU FOR STAYING WITH ME THIS FAR. THANKS TO EVERY-ONE'S ASSISTANCE, THE MANGA VERSION OF *HIGURASHI WHEN THEY CRY: ABDUCTED BY DEMONS ARC* HAS SAFELY REACHED ITS CONCLUSION.

RYUKISHI07-SAMA, WHO SUPERVISED THE ROUGH DRAFTS AND SOMETIMES GAVE ME WARM WORDS. MY EDITORS, KOIZUMI-SAMA AND KOUNO-SAMA, WHO GAVE THEIR ALL IN HELPING PRODUCE THE MANUSCRIPT. HIKARU UZAKI-SAMA, NIWAKO-SAMA, YOSHI SAKANO-SAMA, MOYOMOSO-SAMA, WHO SUPPORTED ME NOT ONLY WITH THE ART, BUT ALSO IN OTHER AREAS.

AND YOU, WHO READ THIS MANGA. REALLY, THANK YOU VERY MUCH..!! I HOPE I WAS ABLE TO SAFELY CONVEY THE CHARACTERS' CHARM AND THE STORY'S BOTTOMLESS POWER THAT MERCILESSLY SHAKES UP YOUR EMOTIONS.

I HAVE ALSO BEEN ALLOWED TO DRAW THE MANGA VERSION OF THE SOLUTION ARC, "ATONEMENT ARC," SO, IF YOU DON'T MIND, I WOULD BE EXTREMELY HAPPY IF YOU WOULD CONTINUE TO WATCH OVER KEIICHI AND EVERYONE AS THEY GROW.

I WILL CONTINUE TO DO MY VERY BEST. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

KARIN SUZUPAKU
06.MAY

HEY...

WILL YOU LISTEN?

TO THE STORY OF THE ONE TIME IN RENA'S LIFE THAT SHE TRIED HER HARDEST ...?

—THE TRUTH MADE CLEAR—

THAT...

THAT SEWING NEEDLE...

I REAL-IZED...

I RE-MEM-BERED ...

—A NEW TRAGEDY—

—THE WORLD OF "HIGURASHI"—

—APPROACHES ITS GREATEST TURNING POINT—

THE WINNER IS ON THE SIDE OF JUSTICE, RIGHT?

I'LL MAKE IT ALL BLACK AND WHITE, RIGHT HERE, RENA.

Let's start our final club activity.

Now.

—THE SHOCKING "ANSWER ARC"—

Higurashi WHEN THEY CRY ATONEMENT ARC

ATONEMENT ARC

ORIGINAL STORY, SUPERVISOR: RYUKISHI07
ART: KARIN SUZURAGI

HIGURASHI
WHEN THEY CRY
ABDUCTED BY DEMONS ARC ❷

RYUKISHI07
Karin Suzuragi

Translation: Alethea Nibley and Athena Nibley

Lettering: Shelby Peak

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

Higurashi WHEN THEY CRY Abducted by Demons Arc, Vol. 2
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